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THE MYSTERY SOLVED.

FACTS RELATING TO THE

"LAWRENCE-TOWNLEY," "CHASE-TOWNLEY," MARRIAGE AND ESTATE QUESTION.

WITH GENEALOGICAL INFORMATION CONCERNING THE FAMILIES OF TOWNLEY, CHASE, LAWRENCE, STEPHENS, STEVENS, AND OTHER FAMILIES OF AMERICA.

BY

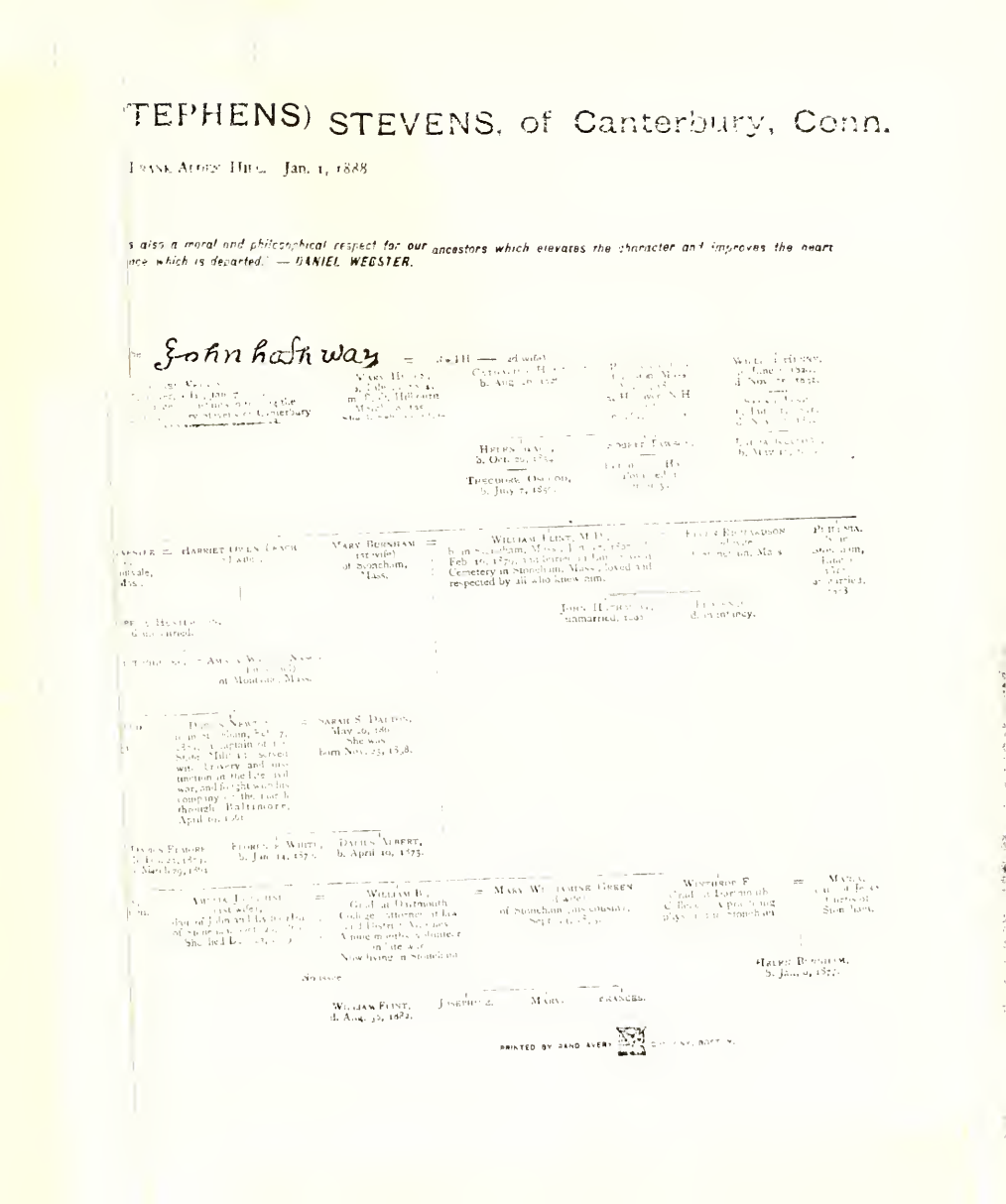
FRANK ALDEN HILL.

RAND AVERY COMPANY, BOSTON,
MADE THIS BOOK.
1888.

(STEPHENS) STEVENS, of Canterbury, Conn.

FRANK ALDEN HILL. Jan. 1, 1888

"is also a moral and philosophical respect for our ancestors which elevates the character and improves the heart nce which is departed." — DANIEL WEBSTER.



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A GENEALOGICAL CHART, showing the Ancestors and Descendants of ROBERT and MARY (STEPHENS) STEVENS, of Canterbury, Conn.

Compiled from Original Records of Wills, Deeds, Bonds, Mortgages, Churches, and Towns; also, from Military and Court Records, and Monumental Inscriptions. By Frank Alden Hill. Jan. 1, 1888

"It is a noble faculty of our nature which enables us to connect our thoughts, our sympathies, and our happiness, with what is distant in place or time; and, looking before and after, to hold communion at once with our ancestors and our posterity. There is also a moral and philosophical respect for our ancestors which elevates the character and improves the heart. Next to the sense of religious duty and moral feeling, I hardly know what should bear with stronger obligation on a liberal and enlightened mind, than a consciousness of an alliance with excellence which is departed." — DANIEL WEBSTER.

Facsimile of the signature of Richard Mayhew

MARY daughter of Thomas Linkon, Senior, a widow, of Taunton, Mass. Married prior to May 13, 1670. May 30, 1690, for father's deeds to Richard Stephens, "for the love and regard I bear unto my son-in-law, Richard Stephens of Taunton, weaver, etc." Leaving Deeds, Liber No. 22, folio 109

His 1st wife unknown.

Facsimile of the signature of John Hathway

HESH — (1st wife). Prior 1644. d. prior to 1672, [2nd wife] and her in the lower graveyard in Berkeley, Mass

Probably ran from London at the "Fleeing," in 1635, aged 21. Became one of the landed proprietors of Taunton. Held offices under the Colonial Government. Died intestate subsequent to May 3, 1714, and prior to Sept. 10, 1717. His widow took administration [illegible] his estate. He was styled in ancient deeds "John Hathway, senior, of Taunton."

Hannah — (1st wife).

John Hathway, of Freetown, Mass., styled in ancient deeds "John Hathway, Junior, of Freetown." Will drawn May 13, 1724 probated June 12, 1730.

Lydia — (2d wife) living May 23, 1724

Abraham Hathway, of 1st town of Taunton now called Dighton. Is to have [illegible] as a private in the dragoons of the church, voices in the town's affairs in Freetown, and rent free forty acres in Taunton for ever. Purchased of Henry Pitts. Nov. 7, 1723, 20 iron-mine in Dighton. Will drawn Aug. 28, 1725; probated April 21, 1726. Died in August, 1725, aged about 70, and buried in [illegible] graveyard, Berkeley, Mass., beside his wife.

= Rebekah Wilmore

Isaac Hathway of Taunton, b. 1693

Mary Pitts, March 17, 1700-01. She was b. in 1693

Joseph (4th son), d. prior to July 12, 1719.

Isaac. Mary = Eleanor Hubert. Hopestill = Richard Woode of Taunton.

Abraham Hathway, b. Sept. 12, 1683, a yeoman living in Dighton, June, 1726. Thomas Hathway, b. Jan 20, 1680.

Ephraim Hathway, b. May 23, 1678, Colonel of Militia d. Feb. 16, 1727, in the 49th year of his age. Inv. 2c. Hathway homestead, Freetown, Mass. Will drawn Sept. 14, 1726; probated Jan. 29, 1727.

= Hannah Shaw. Mary — (2d wife). Married, 1712-13. She was b. in 1693. d. Dec. 13, 1727.

Ephraim Hathway, a shoemaker, living in 1712, in Rochester, Plymouth Co., Mass.

Hannah — (1st wife).

John = — d. prior to March, 1718. Hannah.

Jacob. Ephraim. — Isaac.

Thomas, executor of the father's will. Hannah. Sarah

Martha. Abigail. Experience.

Shadrach Hathway, d. prior to 1725. = —

Simeon Hathway of Suffield, Mass., now Suffield, Conn.

Samuel Hathway, a blower, living November, 1728, in Suffield, Mass., now Suffield, Conn.

Rebekah Hathway.

Esther Hathway, living in 1720, in Freetown, Mass.

Benjamin Hathway, of Hunterdon Co., N.J.

John Hathway, b. in Taunton 1680; part non-[illegible], in 1716; a soldier. Executor to his father's will. Died Sept. 13, 1733, and buried in lower graveyard, Berkeley, Mass.

= Mercy — administratrix of her husband's estate. d. May 16, —36, in her 83d year; buried by the side of her 1st husband, John Hathway.

= George [Bishop] (2d husband), a painter of Hawley, son of Edward and Elizabeth Bishop. d. [illegible] in 1742, in [illegible] in June, 1742, by whom she had Nicholas Babbit.

Ebenezer Hathway, a shoemaker, living in 1712, in Rochester, Plymouth Co., Mass.

Earle by Hannah = Wealthy Hobart of Berkley.

Silas Hathway of Taunton. = Deborah Cathie, Feb. 17, 1742.

Hannah Hathway of Freetown, Mass. = Samuel Astell of Berkeley, Mass.

Ruth Hathway. Samuel Hathway.

Martha Hathway = Abiel Hathway, son of Seth Hathway of Dighton, by Hannah Paul (dau. of Edw. Paul), his first wife. Had [illegible] one sister; she married North Dean of Taunton. (See Liber No. 28, p. 169, Taunton Deeds.)

ROBERT STEPHENS, = MARY HATHWAY

a s[on] of Nicholas Stephens of Taunton; executor to his father's will. Removed from Taunton to E. Thompson, Conn., about 1760, finally settled in Canterbury, Conn. Died at Pomfret, Conn., Dec. 8, 1793, and buried at Muncho Vine Corners, as "Mr. Robert Stephens, late of Canterbury."

of Berkeley, Mass., Jan. —1745-6; m. by Rev. Samuel Tobey. She was born in Dighton, Mass., Nov. 8, 1726; d. in E. Thompson, Conn., Dec. 7, 1804, aged —78, and there buried. Inscription on gravestone, as follows: "In memory of Mrs. Mary Stephens, deceased Dec. 7, 1804, in her 78th year."

☞ [Note. — This Robert was married in Berkeley, Mass., by Rev. Samuel Tobey, as Robert *Stevens*; and his children (Ann, Mary, Mercy, Robert, and Darius) were baptized under the surname of *Stevens*. This was undoubtedly in error on the part of the minister, as the family surname is, without question, Stephens, as I have shown above. Jan. 26, 1743-5 (subsequent to his marriage), Robert writes his name "Robert Stephens" (see Liber 35, p. 733, Taunton Deeds). Nicholas *Stephens*, in 1735, describes his son Robert *Stephens* (Liber 34, p. 548, Taunton Deeds).]

Elizabeth Eldredge (2d wife), b. Feb. 17, 1704; d. July 13, 1758, in the 54th year of her age. Buried in lower graveyard in Berkeley, by the side of her husband. She was married to John Hathway, Feb. 16, 1744

John Hathway, b. Aug. 10, 1724. Became Colonel of the 2d Regiment of Militia in Bristol Co., and fought at the head of his regiment in the war of the Revolution. Died June 23, 1800, in the 76th year of his age. Frequently mentioned in the military records of his time. Buried in the lower graveyard, Berkeley, Mass.

= Alice Ring (2d wife), b. Sept 17, 1730; m. Dec. 2, 1762; d. Dec. 3, 1794; in the 64th year of her age. Buried by the side of her husband.

Ruth Hathway. Samuel Hathway.

Abraham Hathway, b. Sept 21, 1744, became Captain of Militia, and a prominent man. Died July 25, 1833. Mar. for 1st second wife, Wm. [illegible] Hannah Wilson. His 2nd subsequent marriages published in family sources. *Hathaway.*

= Rachel Robinson, March 11, 1767. She was born Oct. 15, 1751, and died May 29, 1815.

Lazi Hathaway, b. May 2, 1746; d. April 6, 1748

John Hathaway, b. April 6, 1748; d. Dec. 1, 1749.

John Hathaway, b. April 27, 1750; d. Sept 17, 1, 74.

Rebekah Hathaway, b. April 7, 1752; d. Dec. 7, 1777.

Samuel Hathaway, b. Oct. 10, 1754; d. Sept. 8, 1776.

Rebekah Hathaway, b. April 16, 1757.

William Hathaway, b. Sept. 2, 1758.

Alice Hathaway, b. Nov. 29, 1759.

Asahel Hathaway, b. Nov. 27, 1760.

Philip Hathaway, b. Aug. 5, 1762.

Bathsheba Hathaway, b. Nov. 3, 1763.

Bartilla Hathaway, b. April 17, 1766.

Jonathan Hathaway, b. Jan. 20, 1770.

Jonathan Hathaway, b. March 15, 1770; d. Oct. 7, 1771.

Rebekah Hathaway, b. July 20, 1778.

Bethsheba Hathaway, b. June 13, 1781.

Betsy Hathaway, b. June 13, 1781.

Abigail Hathaway, b. May 2, 1787.

Tryphena Hathaway, b. March 17, 1784.

John Hathaway, Attorney-at-Law, b. Feb. 7, 1731; d. Oct. 6, 1799, aged 68 years, at Camden, Me.

= At Hanover, Mass., Nov. 10, 1761, Elizabeth Curtiss, youngest dau. of the late Judge Cushing of that place.

Elizabeth Hathaway, b. July 16, 1733.

Abigail Hathaway, b. July 14, 1777; d. May 27, 1798.

Rachel Hathaway, b. Feb. 18, 1780; d. March 21, 1840.

Abraham Hathaway, b. May 13, 1782; d. May 20, 1870.

Susan Gorham, b. Nov. 17, 1787. She was born March 11, 1785, and died March 8, 1870.

Dealet's Hathaway, b. Oct. 18, 1784.

Semlinda Hathaway, b. Dec. 29, 1785.

Rebekah Hathaway, b. Jan 11, 1792; d. Sept. 20, 1826.

Asher Alden Hathaway, b. Jan 11, 1794; d. Jan. 11, 1794.

Caroline Hathaway, b. Aug 4, 1797.

William Abraham Hathaway, b. Oct. 13, 1836.

Charles Henry Hathaway, b. Sept. 6, 1838; d. 27th [illegible]

Susan Gorham Hathaway, b. Dec. 29, 1834; d. April 21, 1839.

Francis Peck Hathaway, b. Oct. 19, 1842. now living in Boston.

Charles Burkett Hathaway, b. at Raynham, Mass., Dec. 10, 1820 where he now lives. A prominent stockholder and principal in the Taunton R. R. A prominent associate in tracing the pedigree of his ancestors.

Anna Mowry Hathaway, b. Feb. 28, 1830; d. Oct. 5, 1880.

Explanation

Abbreviations

Signs

= placed between two names denotes that the parties were married

b. = born

d. = died

m. = married

unm. = unmarried

bur. = buried

d. s. p. = died without issue

res. = resided

[illegible]

Mary Stevens, b. [illegible] Mass., Dec. 25, 1740; d. [illegible] May 2, 1792, aged 51 years, 4 mos. 7 days.

= Ebenezer Starr of Killingly, Conn., Feb. 10, 1771. He died Oct. 15, 18 [illegible] year. Buried on Brooks Hill, East Thompson, Conn.

Mercy (or Mary) Stevens, b. May 5, 1751; d. March 15, 1813, in her 62d year. Buried in Elmington, Conn., by Rev. Ledoc Bordeway.

= Abiathar Martin of Killingly, Conn., April 25, 1776?

Robert Stevens, b. in Berkeley, Mass., June 11, 1753; b. Jan. 15, 1775; d. Dec. 3, 1813; in Chesterfield, Conn., and left children.

= Lavia Adams, b. April 25, 1760; d. March 21, 1774. Her 1st Canterbury, Conn.

Darius Stevens, b. in Berkeley, Mass., Feb. 26, 1755. Removed with his parents to Canterbury, Conn. Killed in the bloody battle of Pooler Hill, June 17, 1775. Had a premonition of his approaching death the evening before the battle. He went about through both letters and cards in the engagement, but refused to be [illegible]. "No, sir, I shall not live to see the end." He made several voices before receiving his death-wound. Unmarried.

Lavinia Stevens, b. in Killingly, Conn., June 12, 1757. Removed with his parents to Canterbury, Conn., and thence to Lisbon, N. H. He was [illegible] "Samuel Stephens." A non-commissioned officer under Gen. Poor in the war of the Revolution, and received a pension until his death, which took place at Bethlehem, N. H., [illegible]

= Mary Pike, of Canterbury, Conn., b. June 28, 1765; d. Oct. 10, 1809, aged 76 *et supra*.

Silvia Stevens, b. March 23, 1773. In Canterbury, Conn. Entered the ministry, and was installed as pastor over the First Congregational Church in Sconsborough, Mass., where he preached for more than thirty years. Died in Scarborough, Mass., May 17, 1851, and was buried in the Cemetery of that town.

= Christopher Bigelas of Pomfret, Conn., April 4, 1774. He was born June 4, 1762, and died May 29, 1842.

Patty Stevens, d. unmarried.

John Hathaway Stevens, b. in Canterbury, Sept. 20, 1776. Entered the ministry, and was installed as pastor over the First Congregational Church in Scarborough, Mass., where he preached for more than thirty years. Died in Scarborough, Mass., May 17, 1851, and was buried in the Cemetery of that town.

= Elizabeth [illegible] widow of — Andrews of Salem, Mass. Died [illegible], 1855, in Newburyport, Mass., and here by the side of her husband. She was aged 87 years.

Lydia Frost of Woodstock, Conn., 1796. Died in Scarborough, Mass., Sept. 2, 1817.

Ebenezer, b. Aug. 2, 1760. = Anna Stevens Rose (b. cousin), b. Aug. 2, 1762, married in Lisbon, Conn., Oct. 18, 1803. She died Oct. 2, 1809.

John Hathaway, b. [illegible] 1766; removed to Dinwiddie County, Va.

Comfort, d. unmarried in Thompson, Conn.

Mary. = Jonas Wilson.

Fuller (1st husband). = Sarah. = — Lamb (2d husband).

Polly, b. April 27, 1785; d. March 12, 1794.

Pamelia, b. Oct 13, 1789; d. at Kirtsville, July 2, 1868. When 18 years old, her widow told her of the so-called "confession" of Mary Stevens, which she first made public.

= Abijah Cutting.

Betsy, b. June 3, 1791.

Jabez Douglass, of Hebron, N.H. In 1854 he made a search to discover the ancestors of Mary Stevens of Canterbury, Conn., and in a letter dated June 23, 1854, he writes thus: "Every thing that could have the tendency to prove her genealogy is [illegible]

Cynthia, b. [illegible] 1794; d. Aug. 9, 1858.

= Pamelia Wheeler, b. [illegible] 1796; d. Aug. 9, 1858.

Mary Anne, b. Dec. 30, 1804.

= Joseph Stafford.

Elizabeth, b. March 26, 1807.

Adaline, b. Oct. 21, 1809; d. Oct. 30, 1837.

Gilbert H., b. Jan. 6, 1811.

Ebenezer, b. Jan. 25, 1814.

Lydia, b. Oct. 3, 1816; d. Feb. 18, 1846.

Philip Brown.

Harriet, b. July 27, 1819.

Sarah, b. Feb. 15, 1822.

Joseph Rogers. = —

Sarah A. = P. J. Comstock of Providence, R. I.

Mary L.

John S., d. in infancy.

Sarah Adaline. = — Lamb.

Ferguson of Waterford, Me.

= — Lamb

Charles.

Lamb.

Sarah.

Amelia.

All married, and living in Chatham, Mass.

Miranda Bickford

Lydia S. = Lark Jones.

John

Mary Sophronia. = William Clapp of Westminster, Conn.

Abijah, living in Kirtsville, Mo.

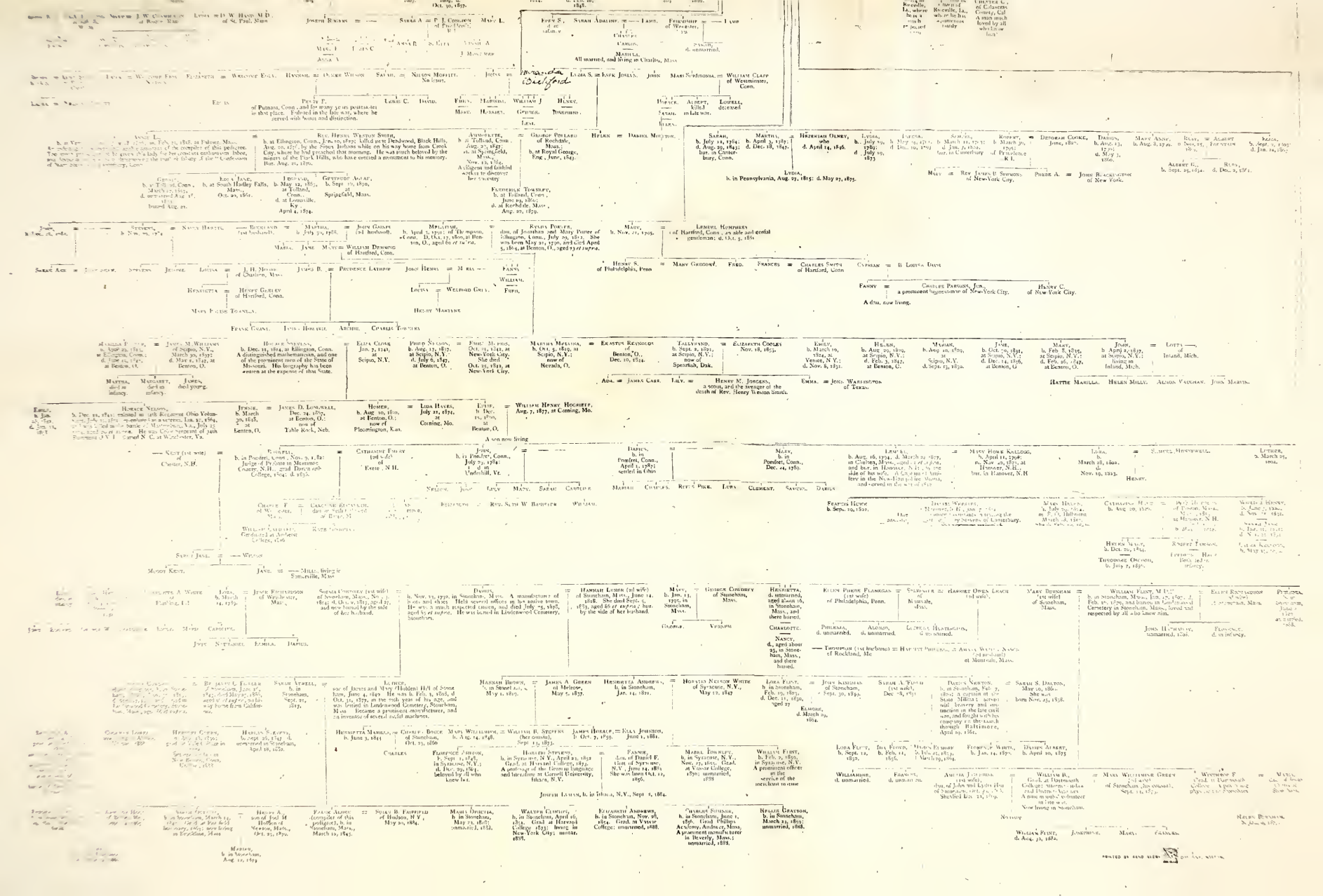
Pamelia, b. [illegible] 1818; d. [illegible] 1868.

Ira, b. [illegible] 1820; d. [illegible] 1868.

Cynthia, b. [illegible] 1822; d. [illegible] 1868.

Abijah Cutting, Jr. = Lucretia C., or Calvesta County, Cal. A man much beloved by all who know him.

Cynthia D. = — Sylvenmorin, a citizen of Rockville, La. He is a [illegible] gentleman and family.



OWNED

A GENEALOGICAL CHART, showing the Main Line of the TOWNELEY FAMILY of Great Britain,

TOGETHER WITH SOME OF THE BRANCHES THEREOF.

Also showing the Pedigree of those of the family who, in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries, emigrated to the United States of America, and settled in Elizabethtown, New Jersey, and Annapolis, Maryland.

By FRANK ALDEN HILL, Jan. 1, 1888.

PEDIGREE OF TOWNELEY, OF TOWNELEY.

A.

PEDIGREE OF TOWNELEY (OR TOWNLEY) OF DOYLE.

B.

PEDIGREE OF TOWNELEY (OR TOWNLEY) ITTON HALL

C.

PEDIGREE OF TOWNELEY (OR TOWNLEY) OF LITTLETON.

D.

PEDIGREE OF MARGARET TOWNLEY COMMONLY CALLED LADY MARY TOWNLEY, OF ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND, U.S.A.

COMPILED BY FRANK ALDEN HILL.

E.

PEDIGREE OF RICHARD TOWNLEY, OF ELIZABETHTOWN, NEW JERSEY, U.S.A.

COMPILED BY FRANK ALDEN HILL.

1822060

Copyright, 1915,

By FRANK ALDEN HILL.

[illegible]

[illegible]

Mrs. Mary Wilson
57 Laurel St.
Putnam, Conn.

TO THOSE

WHO IN ANY WAY HAVE AIDED ME IN MY WORK OF

Solving the Mystery

OF THE "LAWRENCE-TOWNLEY," "CHASE-TOWNLEY,"

ESTATE QUESTION,

I RESPECTFULLY DEDICATE

This Volume.

THE AUTHOR.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

CHAPTER I.

PAGE

ROBERT AND MARY SELYENS OF CANTERBURY, CONN., AND THEIR ANCESTORS 9

CHAPTER II.

REFERS TO THE TRADITIONS, MEETINGS, ASSOCIATIONS AND GENEALOGIES, OF THE LAWRENCE, CHASE, AND OTHER FAMILIES . . 18

CHAPTER III.

MARGARET TOWNLEY, RICHARD CHASE, AND THEIR ANCESTORS, WITH SOME ACCOUNT OF SIR WILLIAM HALTON AND LADY BROWNE FISHER 38

CHAPTER IV.

THE MAIN LINE OF THE TOWNELEY FAMILY OF TOWNELEY HALL, NEAR BURNLEY, LANCASHIRE, ENGLAND 52

CHAPTER V.

THE ROYLE AND LITTLETON BRANCHES OF THE TOWNLEY FAMILY . 57

CHAPTER VI.

ELIZABETH LAWRENCE, ALIAS CARTERET, ALIAS TOWNLEY, AND HER SON JOSEPH LAWRENCE, TOGETHER WITH SOME MENTION OF JOHN, THOMAS, AND WILLIAM LAWRENCE OF LONG ISLAND . . 78

CHAPTER VII.

REFERS TO LAWRENCE, CHASE, AND OTHER FAMILIES HAVING THE TRADITION THAT ONE OF THEIR ANCESTORS MARRIED A LADY TOWNLEY 83

PREFACE.

THE "Lawrence-Townley," "Chase-Townley," estate question has been prominently before the public for the past fifty years. Like Banquo's ghost, it would not down. At divers times and places, meetings have been held, funds raised, and agents sent to England to ascertain if any foundation existed for the tradition that many families in this country were descended from the Townley family of Lancashire, England, and, in consequence thereof, were entitled to unclaimed millions of property. All such efforts have signally failed to furnish the desired information. The following pages contain the summary of a vast work that I have performed to determine the truth or falsity of the tradition above referred to. This work has occupied the greater portion of my time for the past seven years. During that time I have personally examined more than five hundred thousand pages of manuscript, have deciphered thousands of monumental inscriptions, and searched innumerable books of family history, genealogy, and heraldry, besides conducting a large correspondence. The so-called "Confession" of Mary Stevens, and the solicitations of many of her descendants, first induced me to undertake this work. At the outset I had no idea of the magnitude of the task before me; but, although the work grew to huge proportions as it progressed, it also gave promise of a successful term

nation. The work has been made doubly difficult from the fact that some of my predecessors had sown broadcast numerous statements having the appearance of truth, although in reality they were utterly false and worthless. In consequence of such statements, much extra labor had to be performed, for I believed them to be true until I had proved them to be false. These statements are referred to more at length in another place.

In presenting this book to the public, I give them the solution of the mystery that has so long agitated the minds of many families; and, although my labor has failed to obtain any property for any one, I yet feel that the families referred to, particularly coming generations, will be greatly benefited by what I have accomplished.

FRANK ALDEN HILL.

BOSTON, MASS., June 1, 1888.

THE MYSTERY SOLVED.

CHAPTER I.

ROBERT AND MARY STEVENS AND THEIR ANCESTORS.

SOME years since, an unsuccessful attempt was made by a member of the family, now deceased, to lift the veil of mystery surrounding the early life of Robert and Mary Stevens of Canterbury, Connecticut, and to clearly prove their parentage, nationality, and place of birth. The so-called "Confession" of Mary Stevens, though bearing on its face many inaccuracies, was, nevertheless, *the only record* possessed by the family relating to their ancestors. The origin of this "Confession" is as follows: in 1794, in her humble dwelling in the quiet village of Canterbury, Mary Stevens related to her youngest daughter Sylvia a history of her family and that of her husband.

It is a singular fact that, until this date, Robert and Mary Stevens concealed from their children all knowledge of their ancestry. I know of no reason for such concealment and secrecy. It is to be regretted that our family have not the history *verbatim* as Mary Stevens related it. As it has come down to us, it has many discrepancies, probably because it was imperfectly remembered by the one to whom it was told, and because she made no mention of it until nine years after she had heard it from her mother.

As the family are familiar with the text of the so-called "Confession," I will not refer to it further than to say that it

clearly implied the descent of Mary Stevens from the Towneley[1] family of Lancashire.

In July, 1880, I began the work of tracing the genealogy of Robert and Mary Stevens, expecting to be able to connect the latter with the Towneley family of Great Britain. I labored under many disadvantages in undertaking this work. Aside from the members of my immediate branch (the John Hathaway Stevens branch) of the family, the names of but few of the other descendants were known to me. And it was necessary to acquire facility in deciphering ancient records, as well as a knowledge of how to conduct a genealogical research, all of which took time, labor, patience, and money.

At the commencement of my work, I determined that, as Robert and Mary Stevens were not natives of Canterbury, they had come to that village from some town near the coast, and most likely from Rhode Island or Massachusetts. My plan was to make a thorough examination of church, town, and other records of Canterbury and vicinity, and then work eastward for a clue to determine the birthplace, or place of marriage, of said parties. Upon the register of the "First Church of Christ" in East Thompson, Connecticut, in vol. i. p. 60, I found the following entry: —

"Feb. 11, 1769. Mary wife of Robert Stevens, dismissed from "the Church of Christ at Berkeley, became a member of this "church."

The above record furnished me with a decided clue. After visiting Berkeley, Rhode Island, where I found nothing, I went to Berkeley, Massachusetts, where I was rewarded by finding recorded in the "Minister's Book" kept by the Rev. Samuel Tobey, minister of the First Church of Christ in Berkeley, deceased, the following entries: —

"Jan'y ye 3d 1745. Married Robert Stevens of Taunton to "Mary Hatheway of Berkeley."

[1] The main line of this family have spelled their surname Towneley, including those of the present generation. The Royle, Littleton, and American branches of the family, as well as some others, spell their family surname Townley.

"Nov. 23d 1746. Baptized by ye Reverend Mr. Wales, a "child for Robert Steven's wife, called Ann."

"May the 2d 1749. Baptized a child for Mary Stevens, the "wife of Robert Stevens called Mary."

"May ye 5th 1751. Another for Mary Stevens, ye wife of "Robert Stevens, called Mercy."

"Jan'y, ye 21st 1753. Baptized a child of Robert Stevens "called Robert."

"Feb.ry 25th 1755. Baptized a child of Robert Stevens "called Darius."

[NOTE. — The last four children were baptized by the Reverend Samuel Tobey of Berkeley, Mass.]

Having thus determined that the maiden name of Mary Stevens was not Towneley, but Hatheway, and that her marriage with Robert Stevens was a legitimate one, I next made a thorough examination of the records of Wills, Deeds and Courts, in Bristol County, together with such church and town records as I could find in Taunton, Berkeley, Dighton, Freetown, Swanzey, Somerset, Norton, Raynham, and vicinity. This arduous work covered a period of several months of my own time and that of several assistants. I will not enter into details, but will mention in brief results secured.

The family name is *Stephens*, and not Stevens, as the records clearly prove. Robert Stephens was son of Nicholas, and grandson of Richard Stephens of Taunton, Mass. He was born in Taunton, was executor of his father's will, and, at the time of his removal to Connecticut (about 1757), was possessed of a considerable estate.

Nicholas Stephens (father of Robert) married thrice. His first wife was Remember ——, with whom he was living in 1701. (See Liber No. 6, p. 353, Taunton Deeds.)

He married for his second wife, Anne Spur, daughter of John Spur of Taunton. (See Liber No. 19, p. 296, Taunton Deeds.)

He married for his third wife, Feb. 2, 1736, Mary Rosier. (See Records of Taunton.)

Richard Stephens, grandfather of Robert Stevens, was our first ancestor in this country. He came originally from Plymouth, England. During his early life in this country he was a weaver and woolcomber. He became a prominent citizen and an extensive landholder in Taunton, and in time came to own an interest in the Iron Works at Dighton, Mass.

Richard Stephens's homestead and orchard was located close by Taunton Green, not far from the present Court House. He married Mary, daughter of Thomas Linkon (or Lincoln) Senior of Taunton, who was by occupation a miller. (See Liber No. 5, p. 5, Taunton Deeds.) In an "Historical Sketch of the "Ancient Iron Works of Taunton" by J. W. D. Hall, occurs the following:—

"Richard Stephens, whose name is frequently mentioned in "the transactions of the old Iron Works, in connection with "his son and others, built a small forge or 'Bloomerie,' about "1655, for making charcoal iron at Taunton line, on Three Mile "River, near the present site of North Dighton Furnace. In "1739-40 Bollan and Laughton, wealthy English merchants of "Boston, having purchased a portion of the iron works, leased "the interest of Stephens' Sons in the dam, falls, etc., at £7 a "year (they reserving the right to run their grist mill), and "increased the capacity of the iron works. Many years later "Bollan and Laughton, probably anticipating the troubles of "the brewing war, conveyed the forge property to Wm. Laugh-"ton, Jr., a nephew of the latter. In 1776 Bollan and Laughton "became Royalists, or Tories, rendering allegiance to His "Majesty, King George.

"They had also purchased many farms and tracts of land in "this county, several of which were confiscated after the close "of the war, and sold by the Commissioners of the Common-"wealth. Capt. Israel Washburn of Raynham, Capt. Henry "Hodges of Taunton and Judge Samuel Tobey of Berkeley. "Records of these proceedings may be seen in the Registry of "Deeds. The Stephens 'bloomerie' was the first iron works "on Three Mile River, prior to the Baylies enterprise, and the

"descendants of Richard held an interest in the Mills etc., "many years; the last was Elijah Stephens (great grandson of "Richard) who owned a portion of the adjacent property, of "which tradition says they were defrauded by Boston parties."

While in England, I procured many pedigrees (with coats-of-arms) of Stephens families, but could not connect, by actual proof, our Richard with any of them; although I am strongly of the opinion that he was of the Devonshire branch.

The first ancestor in this country of Mary (Hatheway) Stevens, was John Hathway, who probably came over in 1632 in the ship "Blessing," aged 18. After a time he removed to Taunton, where he became one of the landed proprietors. He was a man of character and influence, and to distinguish him from his son "John Hathway, Jr., of Freetown," was commonly styled in ancient writings "John Hathway Senior, of Taunton." Among other children he had Abraham, who married Rebekah Wilbore of Taunton, and settled in that part of Taunton now called Dighton.

Deacon Abraham, as he was called, was a blacksmith, owned the ferry across Taunton River, was a prominent member of the church, and had a large interest in the Iron Works at Freetown. His son John married Mercy ——, by whom he had Mary Hathway, who married Robert Stephens: and also John Hathway, who was a saddler by trade and a soldier by nature. This John, July 31, 1778, was commissioned Colonel of the Second Regiment of Militia for the county of Bristol, in place of Col. Edw. Pope, resigned. During the Revolutionary war Col. John Hathway, on an "alarm," marched at the head of his regiment, and won an enviable reputation as a brave and efficient officer.

He died June 27, 1800, in the 76th year of his age. At his funeral the troops and citizens assembled in such vast numbers that the funeral services had to be held in a large unfinished barn standing in a field near his residence.

Col. John resided on the old Hathway homestead, which is just across the river from Dighton, and near the celebrated

Dighton Rock, or "Indian Stone," as it was called by the early settlers, now within the limits of the town of Berkeley. He was buried in the lower burying-ground of Berkeley by the side of his mother.

In this graveyard lie, side by side, the ancestors of Mary (Hathaway) Stevens. The place is retired, and far removed from the noise and strife of the busy world. The arrangement of the graves is peculiar, as only the eldest son of each generation is there buried.

Probably the remains of John Hathway, Senior, the original immigrant, were removed to England for burial, though they may be resting by the side of his wife Ruth, who survived him. If so, there is no gravestone to mark the spot.

I give below the inscriptions upon some of the gravestones, taking them in the order in which they stand: —

1st Gen. "Here lies the body of Ruth Hathway the wife "of John Hathway, aged 82. Died Sept. the 10 in the year "1705."

2d Gen. "Here lies the Body of Deacon Abraham Hathway "who died August 1725. Aged about 73 years."

"Here lies the Body of Mrs Rebecca wife of Deacon Abra-"ham Hathway died Aug ye 30th 1727. Aged about 65 years."

3d Gen. "Here lies ye Body of John Hathway son of Dea-"con Abraham Hathway age 38 years. Died Sepmr ye 13th "1733."

"Here lies ye Body of Samuel Hathway aged 2 years. Died "Sept 13th 1733."

"Here lies the Body of Ruth Hathway aged 4 years. Died "Sepmr 1733."

4th Gen. "Sacred to the Memory of Col. John Hatheway "who departed this life June 27th A D 1800 in ye 76th year of "his age.

In silent mansions of the dead,
The Saint retir'd lies safely hid;
No din of war, nor raging lust,
Disturbs the peace of sleeping dust."

"In memory of Mrs Elizabeth, the wife of Mr. John "Hatheway who died July ye 12th 1758 in the 35th year of her "age."

"In Memory of Mrs. Alles Hatheway widow of Col. John "Hatheway. She died January 28th, 1818, in the 82d year of her age.

She took her flight on wings of love,
To heaven's eternal rest:
Where not a wave of trouble rolls,
Across her peaceful breast."

5th Gen. "In Memory of John ye son of John and Elizabeth "Hatheway, died Dec. ye 1st 1740 aged 1 year 3 mos. 21 days."

At the end of this line of graves is that of Mercy, the wife of John Hathway, who, with his son Samuel and daughter Ruth (see above), died in September, 1733. This Mercy was the mother of Mary Hatheway who married Robert Stevens and removed to Canterbury, Connecticut. Her maiden name I have been unable to discover, although I have made every effort to do so. If we are in any way descended from the Towneley family, it can only be through this Mercy, as the other ancestors are known to us. In my judgment, our Mercy was descended from that branch of the Towneley family that settled in New Jersey, although I cannot prove this. It will be seen from the inscription upon her gravestone that she married for her second husband George Babbit, and lived to be over 82 years old. By him she had Silas and Ruth Babbit, but I have been unable to discover any of their descendants.

The following is the inscription upon the gravestone of said Mercy: —

"Here lies the Body of Mrs Marcy, who was formerly widow "of Mr. John Hatheway; since wife of Mr. George Babbit, "who died May 15th 1756 in ye 83d year of her age.

"As a token of filial affection, this monument was erected "by her son John Hatheway, Esq."

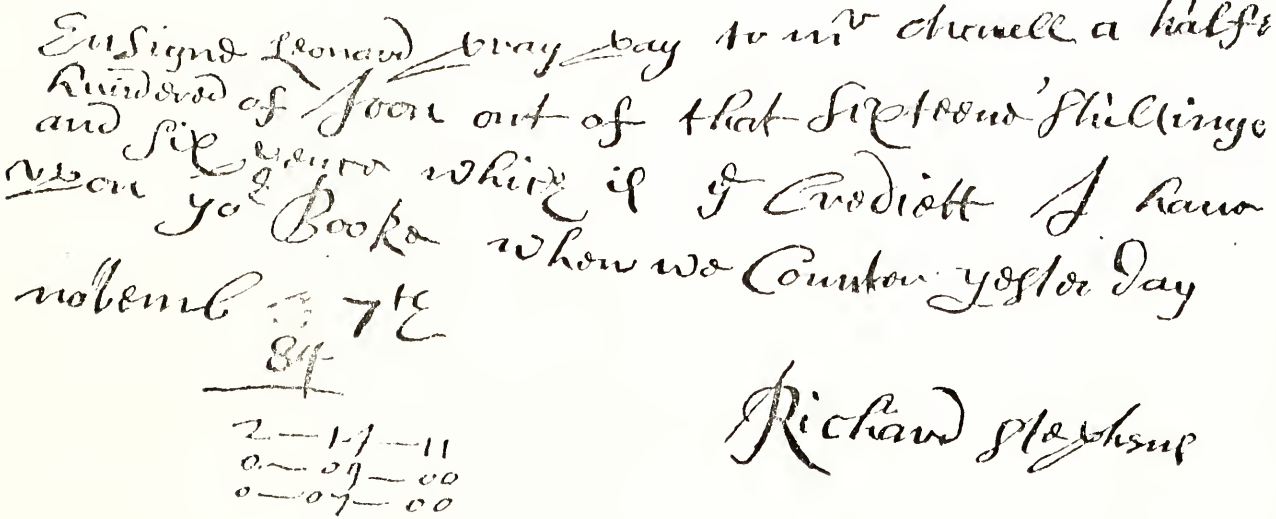
The Genealogical Chart accompanying this volume furnishes

a summary of what I have discovered concerning the ancestors of Robert and Mary (Stephens) Stevens.

When I found that Mary Stevens was not a Townley (as her Confession implied), I then began tracing the names in Lawrence and Chase traditions of the country, hoping that by so doing I might discover the maiden name of the Mercy referred to. The following chapters show the results obtained by this labor, and will disclose to the reader the solution of the mystery of the "Lawrence-Townley," "Chase-Townley," estate question.

The preceding chapter, with its accompanying Genealogical Chart, constitutes the Final Report of the Author to the descendants of Robert and Mary Stevens of Canterbury, Connecticut.

FACSIMILE OF THE HANDWRITING OF RICHARD STEPHENS, THE FIRST IMMIGRANT.



CHAPTER II.

REFERS TO THE GENEALOGIES, TRADITIONS, MEETINGS, AND ASSOCIATIONS OF THE LAWRENCE, CHASE, AND OTHER FAMILIES.

THE following is the genealogy of one of the Lawrence families, compiled by the descendants of John, William, and Thomas Lawrence of Long Island: —

"The first ancestor of this family known was Sir Robert "Laurens of Ashton Hall, in Lancashire, England, who flour- "ished in 1191, and received the knighthood from King Rich- "ard, also a coat of arms, which is appended to the will of "William Lawrence, 1689, and Richard Lawrence, 1711, in the "Surrogate's office, New York City. Sir John Lawrence, the "ninth in lineal descent from the above Sir Robert Laurens, "flourished in 1491. He killed a gentleman usher of King "Henry VII., was outlawed, and died in exile in France, issue- "less, when Ashton Hall and his other estates passed by royal "decree to his relations, Lords Monteagle and Girard. Three "brothers, John, William and Thomas Lawrence, descended "from Sir John Lawrence, emigrated to America. John Law- "rence, the eldest, was born in Great St. Albans, Hertfordshire, "England, in 1618, came over in the ship Planter, N. Travis, "Master, and landed in Plymouth, Mass., in 1635, from whence "he went to Long Island, afterwards resided in New York, "where he held many public positions, and died in 1699, leav- "ing descendants. His will, written in 1698, is on file in the "Surrogate's office, New York. William Lawrence, the second "brother of John, was born in 1623; in 1635 he came over "with John, in the ship Planter, and became the proprietor of

"Lawrence's Neck (so-called) which stretches into Long Island "Sound, between Flushing Bay and Whitestone, about nine "hundred acres, a part of which is the present site of St. Paul's "College.

"William Lawrence held many civil and military offices, and "died in 1680 leaving numerous descendants. His son Joseph, "by his second wife, Elizabeth Smith, daughter of Richard "Smith, the proprietor of Smithtown, married Mary Townley in "1690. After the death of William Lawrence in 1699, his wife, "Elizabeth Smith, married the Hon. Philip Carteret, Governor "of New Jersey, in April, 1681, and removed to Elizabethtown "with her family. The town was named after Elizabeth Smith. "Philip Carteret died in December, 1682. His widow then "returning to Long Island. Thomas Lawrence, the youngest "of the three brothers, came to this country, after the brothers "John and William. In 1655 Thomas and his brothers ob-"tained possession of a tract of land in Newtown, Long Island. "Thomas afterwards purchased the whole of Hell-Gate Neck, "from Hell-Gate Cove to Bowery Bay. He died in Newtown, "in July, 1703, leaving five sons, Thomas, William, John, "Daniel and Jonathan, of whom John alone permanently re-"mained at Newtown. A large number of descendants sprung "from these brothers, John, Thomas and William. The list is "to be found in Thompson's History of Long Island and Hol-"gate's American Genealogy, published by George P. Putnam "in 1851. Henry Lawrence was a descendant from Sir John "Lawrence, who flourished in 1491, and, therefore, a connection "of John, William and Thomas. He was an adherent of Oliver "Cromwell, and his picture is seen as President, in Clarendon's "history of the Rebellion. His gravestone, not yet effaced, is "in the Chapel of St. Margaret, Alias Thele, in Hertfordshire. "The coat of arms can be traced on it, viz:—a cross, raguly, "gules. The crest, a fish's tail or demi dolphin."

In connection with the above document it is stated, that Joseph Lawrence (who married Mary Townley, 1690) had as children Elizabeth (married John Bowne, 1714), and Abigail,

who married Major Alexander Forbes of the British Army. The descendants of another of the Lawrence families have been given the following history: —

"The family of Lawrence is traced plausibly to a Robert "Lawrence, who settled in Lancashire, and was knighted in "1191 for valorous deeds at the siege of Acre, yet more "positively to a Sir Robert Lawrence of Ashton Hall, whose "marriage to Anna Trofford in 1298 is a matter of public "record: and the records of Ashton Hall for a period of four "hundred years bring us to a son of the house named John, "who married Mary Townley, of Townley Hall. The de- "scendants of this pair are the heirs officially called for so "frequently by the English authorities.

"Ashton Hall is situated six miles west of Manchester: is "entitled to one member of Parliament, and is remarkable, "among other features, for a large church of the time of Henry "the Fifth; and the Lawrence family is thus prominent in "English history. But the enormous possessions of the Law- "rence-Townley family are derived from the wife. Mary "Townley was the oldest daughter of Sir Richard Townley "and Mary Widdrington, of Widdrington, Northumberland "County, of notoriety from his connection with the hero of "Chevy Chase, of whom was sung:

"'My heart is woe for Widdrington,
As one in doleful dumps:
For when his legs were smitten off,
He fought upon his stumps'

"The Widdrington Estate included many mining properties "in Durham County near to New-Castle-upon-Tyne. These, "of very great value, were conveyed by will to his daughters, "and by marriage settlement secured to her separate right "and were accordingly willed to her two daughters, Mary "and Dorothy. The former married, against her father's "consent, John Lawrence, who was a Protestant, and socially "inferior, doubtless, as he elected to follow the seas. The "couple eloped and were married in the English Kirk at the

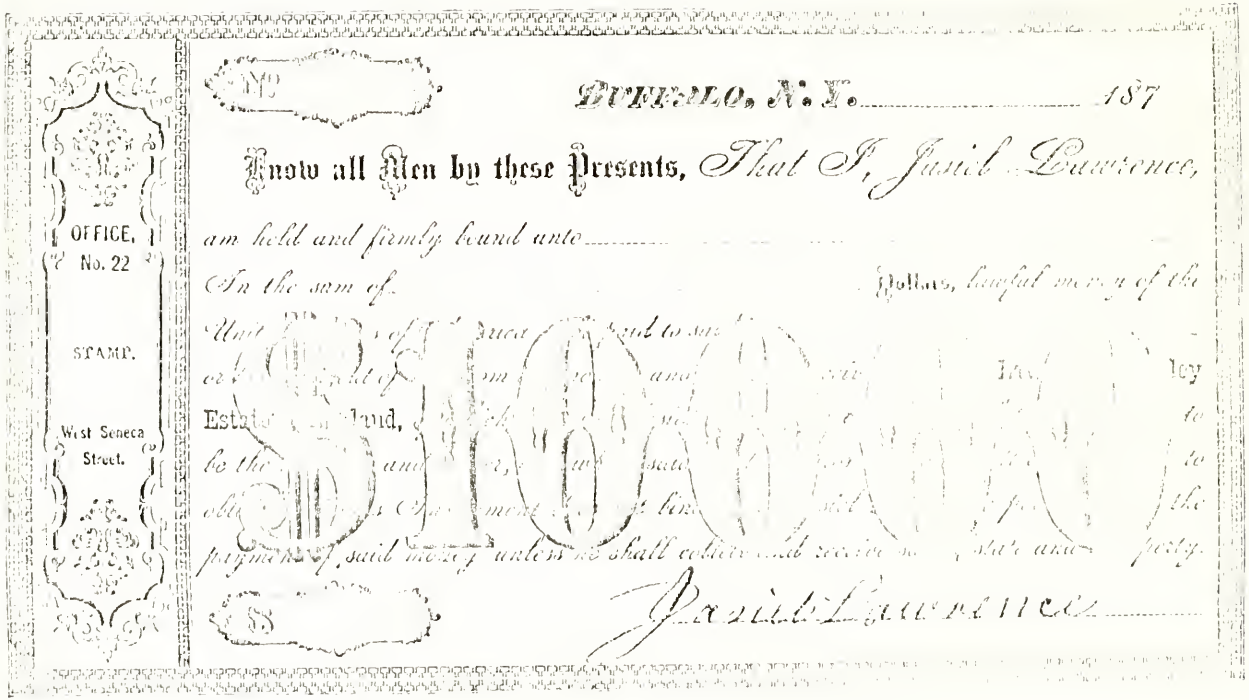
FACSIMILE. REDUCED ONE-QUARTER OF ORIGINAL SIZE.

"Hague in Holland. As Mary Townley Lawrence was about "to become a mother, she made application to be received at "Townley Hall, but Sir Richard refused to receive her, and she "returned to the ship Highflyer which had brought her from "Holland, and of which her husband was the second officer; "and on board this ship were born twin sons. The ship put "into the port upon the Solway which was nearest to Corby "Castle, where her sister Dorothy, who had married [illegible] "Fitzwilliam, resided; and there, at the church of the parish "Wreaford, to which Corby Castle belonged, the twins were "baptized by the names of John and Jonathan. The former "died in infancy. Jonathan, together with a sister Mary, "subsequently born at the Hague, emigrated with their parents "to America in the autumn of 1714, and the family were "virtually lost to their English relatives, being in constructive "disgrace from the powerful effect of the anger of Sir Richard "Townley, of Townley Hall, whose high social position and "great wealth added force to his displeasure throughout the "circle of his kindred. These emigrants, John and Mary "Lawrence, with their son and daughter, were with difficulty "followed in their wanderings after their arrival in America, "for the reason, chiefly, that the father and son followed the "seas and the females would have only such temporary abodes "on shore as might suit the coasting expeditions of father and "son.

"The son, however, eventually found a home at the mature "age of 43, in a town not far from Boston, and his marriage is "recorded to have taken place November 13, 1738. He became "conspicuous as an officer commissioned by Governor Shirley, "in the French and Indian war, and was rewarded, with others, "by his Majesty King George Third, by a grant of five hundred "acres of land in Nova Scotia. Upon this grant he settled and "there died in 1769. The family history has been traced from "him with sufficient authenticity, it is supposed, to justify the "institution of legal proceedings, and these have quite recently "been commenced. In 1743, or five years after the marriage "of Jonathan Lawrence, there culminated several large estates "into one — the one now called the Lawrence Townley Estate."

Another of the Lawrence families claims descent from John Lawrence who settled in Watertown, Mass. They have the same general story, viz.: — "That John Lawrence married Mary "Townley, ran away to America, etc." For a full genealogy of this family, see "The Genealogy of John Lawrence of "Watertown, Mass. (by John Lawrence), printed by Whipple, "Boston, 1857." Next in prominence for their efforts is the Chase family, of which the late Chief Justice, Salmon P. Chase, was a member. And as early as 1847 (besides previous efforts in 1830), a lengthy notice appeared in a Baltimore paper, stating that by a decree of the High Court of Chancery, "three-"fourths of the Townley Estate belonged to William, Thomas "and Aquilla Chase, or descendants, and the remaining one-"fourth to another brother, or descendants, whose Christian "name the Court was unable to ascertain." This statement was entirely without foundation, as no such decree ever existed.

Next we mention the Townley family, a family well known in the Middle and Western States, as well as in the Canadas; and one that has enrolled among its members the names of many prominent citizens. This family have been very enthusiastic in claiming that they were related to Mary Townley of Lancashire, and have spared no effort to prove their claim to be a true one. But without avail. Effingham Townley, of Elizabethtown, New Jersey (deceased), was so confident that the estate in question would fall to him, that he made provision for its distribution in his will to his children. They have family traditions concerning a large Townley Estate in England, besides a correspondence that passed between Richard Townley of New Jersey and Charles Townley, Clarenceux (descendant of Nicholas Townley, deceased, formerly of Littleton House near London). This correspondence was in 1765–6–7–8, and, although the marriage at that time had taken place, it referred in no way to a Mary Townley who left her home and came to America, nor to any estate for the heirs of such a person. Next we mention the Williams family of New Hampshire, who are positive that Sarah Lawrence, who married their ancestor, was the daughter of Mary Townley, who married Joseph Lawrence.



FACSIMILE. REDUCED ONE-THIRD OF ORIGINAL SIZE.

On the back of the bond of Jasiel Lawrence appears the following: —

"GENEALOGY, AND DECREE OF CHANCERY.

"It is now certain that Jasiel Lawrence, of Watson, Lewis County, New York, is the SOLE HEIR to the Lawrence Townley Estate. The Lawrence family in different parts of the country have expended large sums of money in investigating their claims to this estate, but in vain. — all of them having failed to prove their heirship to this immense fortune, as the pure blood of MARY TOWNLEY, through whom the estate is derived, did not flow in their veins.

"This Mary Townley was married in England to John Lawrence, the ancestor of the present Jasiel Lawrence. This marriage of John Lawrence and Mary Townley is found in the English Records. They emigrated to this country in 1716. The said John Lawrence, and Mary Townley his wife, had only one son, named Jonathan, who was the great-grandfather of Jasiel Lawrence, the present heir-at-law to this estate. This Jonathan Lawrence married Hannah Robbins, of Walpole, Massachusetts, in 1738, by whom he had two sons, Jonathan, Jr., and William. Jonathan Lawrence, Jr., was the eldest son, and next heir to the estate, according to the laws of England. He was born in Walpole, Mass., in 1739. He married Rachael Smith, of Easton, Mass., in 1762. This fact is proved by the town records of Easton, and by other official documents in the possession of the present Jasiel Lawrence. This Jonathan Lawrence, Jr., and Rachael his wife, had two sons, Libbeus and Jasiel. Libbeus was born in Nova Scotia, in 1765, and died in Lansingburgh, N.Y., in 1818, leaving one son, John A. Lawrence, who died in Troy, N.Y., June 10th, 1857, leaving one son, Norman J. Lawrence, who died in 1862, without heirs. He was a soldier in the United States Army, and was shot while driving an ambulance. This closed the line of heirship of Libbeus Lawrence. Jasiel Lawrence, Sr., only brother of Libbeus, was born in Easton, Mass., in 1772, and died at Durhamville, Oneida County, N.Y., in 1842, leaving Jasiel Lawrence, Jr., of Watson, Lewis County, N.Y., who was born September 30th, 1808, and is the oldest surviving son, and only heir to the estate, according to the law of England.

"The COURT OF CHANCERY of England, ordered by the House of Commons, February 23d, 1865, decided: That 'The Lawrence-Townley Estate remains unsettled, and as yet subject to a claimant,' and there is marked on the Chancery books, — 'Heirs gone to America.' The Court also passed the following decree: That 'The Estate belongs to the heirs of Mary Townley, who, having married a Lawrence, settled in America, and her descendants are the legal heirs to the Estate.'"

[NOTE. — The above statement is false in every particular.]

There is still another family who claim Mary Townley as an ancestor, and who say that she married a Herbert. A few of the times and places of meetings of the above families are given below. There was a large gathering of the Townleys of America, at Elizabeth, New Jersey, September 21, 1845, at which time a commission was sent to England. In 1852–3, meetings were held, funds collected, and Columbus Smith, of West Salisbury, Vermont, and J. B. Price, of Philadelphia, were sent to England as counsel. The report of Columbus Smith, I believe to be truthful, and, as far as his examination proceeded, considering that he was laboring in an entirely wrong direction, I think he accomplished all that the circumstances permitted. A meeting of the Lawrences was held at the next of kin office of Mr. Hayes, 327 Broadway, and at the Merchants' Hotel, New York, in July, 1857.

A large meeting of the heirs of John Lawrence, of Watertown, Mass., was held in Boston, in April, 1855. At the American Hotel, Toronto, Canada West, a large gathering of the claimants was held in April, 1867. A gathering of the possible heirs took place at Middletown, N.Y., in October, 1877. The above are a few of the many meetings that have been held at different times by the supposed heirs to the Townley estate.

I quote the following from a pamphlet printed with the assent of Mr. Jasiel T. Lawrence: — "Some fifty years ago, in a "suit brought by the Lawrences of Boston and vicinity, in the "English Court of Chancery, the Court denied the suit as it "was found, in the language of the decree, case No. 24, 366: "'That the said claimants are not the lawful and lineal descend- "ants of John Lawrence and Mary his wife; and that they are "not in the line of descent.' The Hon. Abbott Lawrence and "Daniel Webster, the latter in the interest of the Chase family, "in its early connection with said estate, have had to do with "the inquiries instituted." And from the same source I quote as follows: —

"*The Opinions of Eminent Lawyers:*

"UTICA, N.Y., Aug. 8, 1868.

"At the request of Mr. Jasiel Lawrence, of Lewis County, "and others, I have examined the general features of the claim "made by him and others to property in England, known as "the Townley Estate. In my opinion there is sufficient evi- "dence that they are, and can probably establish that they are, "entitled to said estate, to warrant the employment of a com- "petent person to investigate the matter, and thus ascertain "whether their claim can be established or not by competent "proof.

"(Signed,) FRANCIS KERNAN.

"H. Stark, Verona.
"R. W. Phillips, Utica, & others. } *Witnesses.*

"ROCHESTER, July 5, 1870.

"*Dear Sir:*—In respect to the claim of Mr. Jasiel Lawrence, "I have expressed the opinion that he is an heir to the Town- "ley Estate, and the facts justify his expenditure of the neces- "sary money to investigate and enforce his claim.

"(Signed,) JOHN H. MARTINDALE,
"*Att'y at Law.*

"Late Attorney General of the State of New York and Military Governor "of D. C.

"*Witness*—J. W. Parker, East Pike, Wyoming County, New "York."

Mr. P. Keam, of Keam & Porter, Attorneys-at-Law, in Cincinnati, under date of May 3, 1875, says:—"I have spent "a great deal of time and patience in examining the title and "claims of the several claimants to the Townley-Lawrence "Estate in England. There is no doubt in my mind but that "the estate, worth several millions of dollars, is there awaiting "the lawful claimants." From numerous letters received from parties who have made a study of this question, and who were supposed to be authorities, we condense as follows:—"The "last lineal descendant of Townley Hall was Charles Townley,

"who died in 1805. Since his death the Hall has been leased "three times by the government to collateral heirs of the "Townley family. A late occupant was Col. Charles Townley, "who died suddenly on Saturday morning, November 11, 1876. "The deceased was born in 1803."

"The estate known as the Townley Estate consists of four "estates that have lapsed into one, namely — the Howard "Estate, descended from Francis Howard (Lord Effingham), "on which Corby Castle is located; the Standish Estate; the "Widdrington Estate and the Townley Estate, near Burnley, "in Lancashire. Corby Castle and the Howard property are "said to rent for four hundred thousand dollars per annum. "Townley Hall and the Townley Estate are said to rent for a "like sum per annum." "In the wills of the late occupants "of Townley Hall no transfer is made of any part of the Town- "ley Estate." "The Townley Estate passed into Chancery in "the early part of the present century, and the first advertise- "ment concerning it appeared in 1827."

The following copies of circulars are of interest in this connection: —

CAUTION.

WHEREAS, printed circulars have been sent out purporting to give the proceedings of a meeting of the LAWRENCE COMMITTEE, held at the Merchants' Hotel, in Courtlandt st., New-York, July 20th, 1857, in which my name is used as being Chairman, and as signing the proceedings of said Committee.

I was *not* Chairman of any Committee when Thomas McDowell and Lewis P. Hunt were chosen as Agents to proceed to England, nor did I sign any proceedings of any Committee held there.

"*Beware of the first fraud.*"

JAMES S. LAWRENCE,
Freehold, N. J.

JULY 31st, 1857.

At a meeting of the Lawrence heirs, held at the next of kin

office, 327 Broadway, New-York, this day, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"That the heirs present recognize MR. HENRY HAYS as the "only legitimate means of reaching the object at which they "are aiming."

JAMES S. LAWRENCE,
Chairman.

JULY 24th, 1857.

LAWRENCE-TOWNLEY ASSOCIATION.
DAYTON, O., June 1, 1873.

As a person interested in the Lawrence-Townley estate, your attention is called to the fact that there has been a decision of the English Court of Chancery, by which three fourths of the sum of $350,000,000 has been awarded to the American heirs of Mary Townley. This vast property comes from Sir R. Townley, living about 1600, at Townley Hall, Lancashire, England. Mary Townley was heir to this immense estate. $260,000,000 has been awarded to her heirs in America, and as one of her heirs you are interested in the investigations of the following questions:

1. Who are the legal heirs of Mary Townley-Lawrence?
2. What is necessary to do to establish said title or claim?
3. Can *you establish* your claim, or on what proof do you base your claim?

We wish to impress upon you that no one but YOU can furnish your family history, consequently if you do not do it it will never be done. This is all that is wanting now. Will you do it? No other person has as much interest in *your case* as *yourself*. By furnishing us all the evidence you can obtain, as soon as possible, we may be able to supply any wanting *links* in your chain from other sources. But we can not do this without your help. Please forward to us as soon as possible a full family history of your ancestry as far back as you can give it — names, dates, &c. *not supposed*, but what you can *prove* — and we will then place them, with others, in the hands of attorneys to arrange. Will you unite with us and give all the aid possible? and there is no doubt about the successful

result. It is a big undertaking, and can only be accomplished by united effort. If you do not desire to push your claim any longer, please notify "W. L. Winchell, Corresponding Secretary of Lawrence-Townley Association, Dayton, Ohio," so that there may be no delay waiting for your proof. It may be a fortune to you to attend at once to this matter, but you alone must decide as to what you can or will do.

Respectfully,

W. L. WINCHELL.
J. D. FOX.
J. Q. A. COFFEEN.
Executive Committee.

THE LAWRENCE-TOWNLEY ESTATE.

NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS FORMED.

A Report of the Delegates to the Meeting, held at Buffalo, N.Y., Thursday, Feb. 3rd, 1876.

PROCEEDINGS.

A meeting of the delegates, representing the interests of nearly all the heirs to the Lawrence-Townley Estate, as also, the interest of the heirs to the Lawrence Estate proper, was held at Buffalo on the 3rd day of February, 1876, for the purpose of taking further action in prosecuting the claims to these vast estates.

After organizing the meeting by electing S. S. Brown, of Perrysburg, President, and P. Keam, of Cincinnati, Secretary, the President stated that the object of meeting was to unite the interests of the several heirs into one common interest, under one body of Directors, so that the claims might be prosecuted more vigorously and harmoniously than had been done heretofore.

D. B. Carver, of Albany, made a spirited speech, urging upon the Association the necessity of all members making a speedy compilation of their pedigrees, so that the case might

be completed in Record evidence, before commencing action in the English Courts of Chancery. A full history of the organization and progress of the Western Branch of the Lawrence-Townley Association of Cincinnati, was laid before the meeting by Dr. Shepherd, of Glendale, President, and P. Keam, of Cincinnati, the Counsel of the Association. After which the following resolutions were unanimously adopted.

1st. Resolved, That there be elected a National Board of Directors, consisting of seven members, five of whom shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. This Board to be clothed with authority from all parties interested in either of the estates, to perform such acts as in their opinion are necessary to raise funds to complete the records and pedigrees of the members, and to defray the expenses of a vigorous prosecution of the case to a final termination.

The following gentlemen were elected as members of the National Board of Directors:

Dr. Shepherd, Glendale, O.
S. S. Brown, Perrysburg, N. Y.
Fred. Wellman, Cincinnati, O.
A. C. Kingsbury, Watkins, N. Y.
Dan. Lawrence, Reading, O.
D. W. Hammond, Ontario, Canada.
Charles Tinker, Geneva, O.

2nd. Resolved, That the Board of Directors be empowered to elect delegates to procure Powers of Attorney and Releases from the heirs in both the United States and British Dominions; to draw up Articles of Association for the purpose of forming a Joint Stock Company, with power to issue Bonds, which shall be made in conformity with law, binding on all the heirs, for the purpose of raising funds to defray the necessary expenses in prosecuting the case; said funds to be used under the supervision and direction of the Board of Directors, in connection with their Counsel, and that they act with such Barrister or Barristers as may be retained by said Board, in the final prosecution of the case in England.

3rd. Resolved, That all papers, pedigrees, and Records of every description, and from all resources, shall be passed over to the National Board of Directors, to be used by them for

their entire use and benefit, in completing the pedigree of any member who may be a contributor to the general fund, or for such other purpose as said Board may require. The Board may however give such a consideration for any valuable papers, as they shall deem just and equitable.

4th. Resolved, That all parties having an interest in either the Lawrence-Townley Estate, or in the Lawrence Estate, shall be entitled to the benefit arising from the genealogies or pedigrees already compiled, or that may hereafter be traced out by order of said Board; and that their interest shall be prosecuted without any additional fee further than may be required as a general assessment by the Board of Directors for the purpose of liquidating expenses.

5th. Resolved, That this meeting recommends to the National Board of Directors as Counsel, D. B. Carver, of Albany; George Day, of Troy; Gen. Durbin Ward and Peter Keam, of Cincinnati; and such Barristers in England as may hereafter be decided upon.

6th. Resolved, That said National Board of Directors do meet for the purpose of carrying into effect the above resolutions, at as early a date as possible. The same to convene at a call from Dr. Shepherd, of Glendale, who is to act as President until the regular organization of the Board.

DR. SHEPHERD, Prest., *Pro Tem.*

P. KEAM, Sec'y, *Pro Tem.*

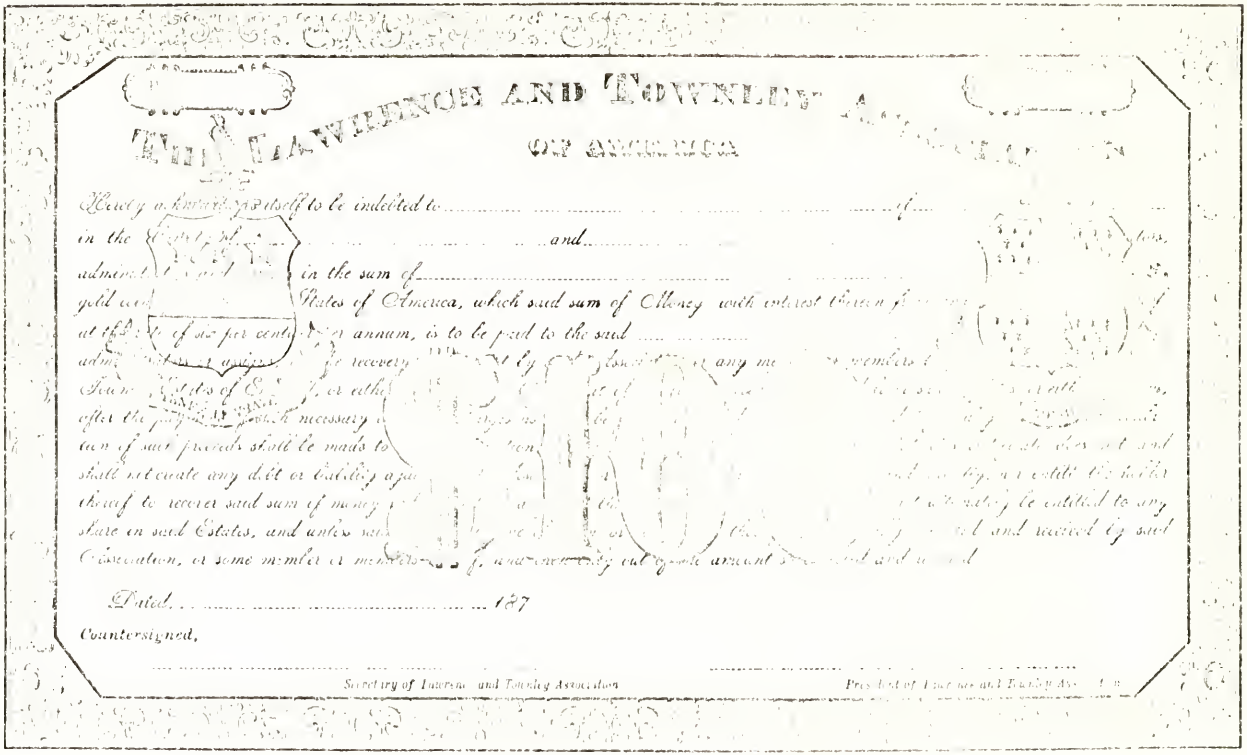
The above Association, properly known as "The Western "Association of the Lawrence-Townley Estate," had for the basis of its action the statement that Richard Towneley, who married Mary, the daughter of Lord Widdrington, had two daughters — Mary, who married John Lawrence, and Dorothy, who married Sir Francis Howard, afterward Lord Effingham; together with the remainder of this story as given on a preceding page. On the strength of this statement, certain members of the Lawrence family residing in Cincinnati and vicinity, who had never devoted themselves to genealogical matters, were persuaded to form the above Association. The statement was entirely false,

as I have shown in another part of this volume; and those who expended their time, money, and labor, to form this Association, were sadly imposed upon. The President, Treasurer, and Secretary of the above Association, as well as the late Dr. Coffeen, I knew personally as being men of strict integrity and honesty of purpose. Dr. Shepherd, President of the above Association, has devoted himself for many years to the work of ascertaining the truth, or falsity, of the American traditions; and when he found that it could not be obtained through the medium of the Association in question, he sought my services in 1884, and we have gone to the bottom of the matter, as will be seen in the following chapters.

The statement that Sir Richard Towneley who married Mary Widdrington, had a daughter Dorothy, is false. Richard Towneley, born in 1657 (grandson of Richard Towneley and Margaret Paston), married, subsequent to 1710, the Hon. Lady Mary, daughter of William, 3d Lord Baron Widdrington, a copy of whose will (drawn March 25th, 1694) is in my possession. They had no child named Dorothy; and not being married until after 1710, they could have had no daughter Mary to marry any John or Joseph Lawrence in 1690, nor 1693. The brother-in-law of this Richard Towneley was William, 4th Lord Baron Widdrington, who married for his first wife *Jane* Tempest. He was heir to the Widdrington estates. Towneley and Widdrington were implicated in the Rebellion of 1715, and were tried for high treason. Towneley was acquitted, although he deserved to be convicted. Widdrington was convicted, but escaped death through the influence of friends in the Royal Court.

He was, however, deprived of his honors, his real and personal estate was sold, and the amount realized, together with the rents and profits thereof, in all about $500,000, was paid into the receipts of the Royal Exchequer.

This left William Widdrington a poor man, and in 1722 [see Journal of the House of Commons] Parliament granted "to "William, late Lord Widdrington, the sum of £12,000 to enable "him to live." William Widdrington died at Bath, England, in 1743, having married for his second wife a Mrs. Graham.



FACSIMILE. REDUCED ONE-THIRD ORIGINAL SIZE.

Richard Towneley died August 18th, 1735. I have a copy of his will, and there is no mention in it of any daughter Dorothy. His will was drawn February, 1731-2, and probated October 10th, 1735.

The only daughter he had was Mary Catharine, who married Thomas Hornyold, of Blackmore Park, County of Worcester, Esq., who died in 1762. She was not of age when her father died.

The "Historical Register and Chronological Diary," for 1729 (vol. 16, p. 34), reports the death of Mary Widdrington as follows: — "July 2d, 1729, Dy'd, the Hon. Mrs. Mary Towneley, "wife of Richard Towneley, of Towneley, Esq., and sister of the "present Lord Widdrington."

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There is not, and never was, any record of any marriage of a John Lawrence to a Mary Towneley, daughter of Richard Towneley and Mary Widdrington his wife. There is no record of the baptism of John and Jonathan Lawrence upon the Church Registers at Wetheral. I have visited Wetheral and Corby Castle, and the Corby estates do not, and never did, belong to the Towneley family.

They are at present in the possession of one of the Howard family. Corby Castle is at present rented to Mr. E. Behrens.

No John Lawrence with a wife Mary Townley, ever came to Massachusetts or Nova Scotia; and the Jonathan Lawrence who in 1738 married Hannah Robbins in Walpole, Mass., was not in any way descended from Richard Towneley and Mary Widdrington. The Lawrence family of England never resided at Ashton Hall, near Manchester. Ashton Hall, about 6 miles from Manchester, is in the village of *Ashton-under-Lyne*, and was the home of the Assheton, or Ashton, family. The home of the Lawrence family was Ashton Hall, about three miles from the city of Lancaster. A portion of the old building is still standing, but the property passed from the hands of the Lawrence family long ago. The last male heir was Sir Robert Lawrence, Knight, whose co-heiress Sibel married Thomas Hesketh, Esq., of Rufford. Ashton Hall passed into the possession of James Earl of Arran, in the latter part of the seventeenth century.

Mr. George W. Chase, of Olathe, Kansas, has for years asserted that he found in England a Decree of the Court of Chancery, issued in relation to a suit brought by Jonathan Lawrence and others, in 1827, to recover the estate of Mary Townley who married John Lawrence. Mr. Chase gives the date of the issuing of this Decree as 1829, and states that he has a copy of it. In a circular issued by Mr. Chase, August 31st, 1875, is the following: — "The great obstacle in the way "was a lack of the date of the decision of the Court of Chancery. "Within a short time I have obtained that, and can, at any time "after we get prepared, lay claim to it. There is but one place "in England where it is recorded." And in the same circular he says: — "Above all, the case was kept in Chancery for many "years, and finally decided in 1829, which leaves us but a short "time in which to present and prove our claim. The time is "coming when I will publish, in circular form, the decision."

I have personally examined the "Decrees and Orders" of the English Court of Chancery, as well as "Chancery Bills and Answers," from 1640 to 1860, under the names of Lawrence, Chase, and Townley, and I assert that there is no such Decree in existence, and never was. In a letter dated November 30th, 1880, Mr. Chase writes as follows: — "John Lawrence married "Mary Townley in Holland and came to America. I have full "proofs with dates. This Mary Townley was daughter of Sir "Richard Townley, the last male heir in direct line to inherit "the estate." Having "full proofs with dates" is, to say the least, putting it rather strong. Within the past two years — and fully nine years after he had written that he had obtained the date of the "decision of the Court of Chancery" — Mr. Chase writes as follows: — "Mary Townley was married in "London, in a church. Her parents were present, so the story "of her elopement is not correct." There is a wide margin between his two statements. I have also personally examined the Records of the English Church in the city of Hague in Holland, as well as the records of Nova Scotia, and they contain no entry whatsoever of the marriage of a John or any other Lawrence to a Townley, nor the birth of any children from such

parents. In fact, the name of Townley is not to be found in the said records.

James F. Jaquess and George W. Chase have for years deceived the public by spreading broadcast the story above referred to, and asserting it to be the truth.

When I turned the direction of my work from the Stephens family to the families of Lawrence and Chase, I found that the said story formed the basis for the greater part of the action that had been and was being taken by the descendants of the Lawrence and Chase families. Step by step I have searched for the facts, and have found that these statements were false to the core.

In 1880 Messrs. Lamphere and Usher of New York City began an investigation of the question herein dealt with. On his return to this country, from England, Mr. Usher issued his report to those for whom he had been working. I have never met Mr. Usher, but an examination of his report (in the light of my present knowledge) convinces me that he has worked not only intelligently but with an honesty of purpose; although he did not succeed in tracing to its true source the tradition that has been handed down for so many years in the Chase and Lawrence families.

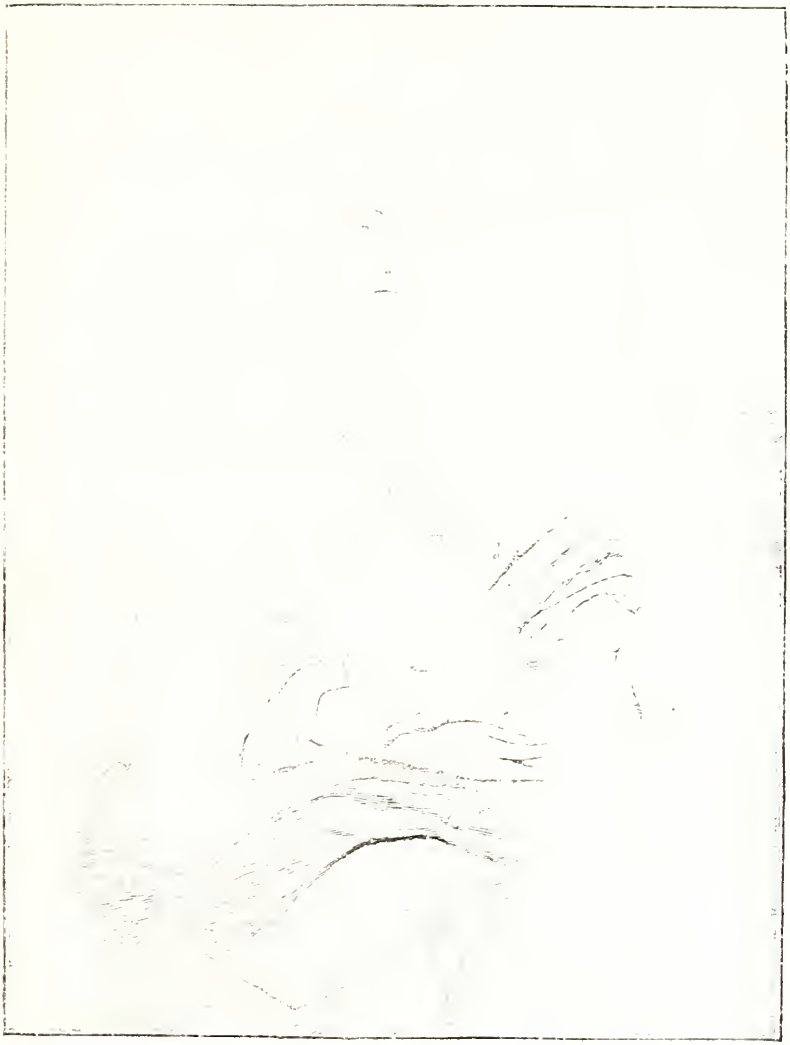
CHAPTER III.

MARGARET TOWNLEY, RICHARD CHASE, AND THEIR ANCESTORS, WITH SOME ACCOUNT OF SIR WILLIAM HALTON AND LADY BROWNE FISHER.

IN May, 1882, while searching the records in Annapolis, Maryland, I chanced upon the name of Jeremiah Townley Chase. The peculiarity of this name at once attracted my attention. Upon inquiry I learned that Jeremiah Townley Chase, deceased, had been Chief Justice for the Court of Appeals, in Maryland; and that some of his descendants were living in Annapolis. A short time after, I met his granddaughter, Miss Matilda Chase, since deceased; who, when she learned the object of my visit, pointed to a portrait hanging upon the wall of her drawing room, and said: — "There is the portrait "of Lady Mary Townley, brought to this country by my ances- "tors." In addition to this portrait Miss Chase had several pieces of silver plate, that her ancestors brought from England, emblazoned with the crest and arms of the Townley family. I obtained permission to photograph the portrait and silver ware together with a gold snuff-box having upon it a portrait of one of their ancestors.

The following shows the sum and substance of the information possessed by the Chase family of Maryland, concerning their family history, at the time of my first making their acquaintance. I quote from letters sent me by members of the family: —

"Samuel Chase of London, England, had Richard and "Thomas, and died about Nov. 2, 1722, in Brownlow Street, "Drury Lane, in the Parish of St. Giles in the Fields. Richard,



MARGARET (COMMONLY CALLED LADY MARY) TOWNLEY.
[From an Oil Painting by Sir Godfrey Kneller, date about 1713.]

"the elder of the two sons married Margaret Frances Townley, "a daughter of Lord Townley, Oct. 31, 1714, and by her had "two sons, Richard and Jeremiah, who emigrated to America "about the year 1732. Richard settled in Baltimore, and "Jeremiah in Charles County, Maryland. Samuel Chase "owned houses at the Seven Dials, Gerard St., and Soho "Square, London, and much other property at Chelsea.

"Considerable property is also believed to have been left by "Lady Browne Fisher to Margaret Frances (Townley) Chase, "and also by Lady Frances Halton, wife of Sir William Halton, "Baronet, her relative to Richard and Jeremiah Chase, sons of "Margaret Frances Townley and Richard Chase who came to "America in 1732. The Reverend Thomas Chase of Baltimore "received and accounted for rents and other monies due "Richard and Jeremiah Chase, and at his death, Sir William "Halton, of London, Baronet, performed this service for them. "After the death of Sir William Halton, Sir William Perkins, "a merchant, received and accounted for the same to Richard "Chase and Judith, the widow of Jeremiah Chase. Richard "Chase, 2d, died Dec. 1757, when his son Jeremiah Townley "Chase was a minor, and directed by Will that all his personal "estate should be converted into money and lodged in the "Public Funds, in England, for the education of his two chil- "dren, Jeremiah Townley Chase and Frances Halton Chase: "which was done it is believed, and there is no evidence to "show how these funds were expended, whether for the benefit "of the persons named or not, or whether they ever received "the whole benefit by proceeds from sales of these lands, "houses and property, or not, or were paid over the money for "rents accrued since the death of Sir William Halton. And "in fact no evidence or papers to show that the property was "sold, paid for and a return made to the rightful owners."

From another letter I quote the following: — "The family "portraits now in Annapolis, were painted by Sir Godfrey "Kneller. In regard to the annuities, Sir William Halton in "a letter to Richard Chase (son of Margaret Townley and "Richard Chase), says: 'In justice they belong to you. They

"were given, by your great grandfather Andrews, to Turton "and Crayle, in trust for his wife Lady Browne Fisher, and "then for your mother, Margaret Townley.' This letter is "dated December 19th, 1747, signed William Halton, Baronet, "and directed to Mr. Richard Chase. Lady Browne Fisher "married more than once and through connection with her. "Margaret Townley may be identified.

"June 6th, 1882."

It will be seen from the above that, although the Chase family of Annapolis possessed but little information relating to their ancestry, it yet contained, besides a Chase-Townley marriage, much that related to a Lord Townley and property in England. The discovery of the above points in the history of the Chase family of Maryland at once led me to trace in detail their genealogy, which I found to be the key to the solution of the "Lawrence-Townley" "Chase-Townley" estate question.

The pedigree of the Towneley (or Townley) family accompanying this volume clearly shows the solution of the Lawrence-Chase-Townley traditions that have so long troubled the minds of anxious inquirers, and defied the efforts of many agents and committees. Whoever examines the pedigree will note that Margaret Townley, of London, who married Richard Chase in 1714, was cousin to Effingham and Charles, sons of Col. Richard Townley of Elizabethtown, New Jersey. It will also be noted that by their marriage and immigration to America, Margaret Townley and Richard Chase brought prominently into notice a Townley-Chase alliance.

This, with the fact that Col. Richard Townley had married the widow of Sir Philip Carteret (*née* Smith, whose first husband was Captain William Lawrence of Flushing, Long Island), shows the foundation for the traditions so widely circulated in the Lawrence, Chase, and Townley families of this country. Richard Townley came to America in the *suite* of Lord Howard, Baron of Effingham, who succeeded Culpepper as Royal Governor of Virginia in 1683. He remained in America and settled in Elizabethtown, New Jersey, where he became a Colonel of

the Militia and where he married the above mentioned lady, whose children, by her first husband, William Lawrence, were yet of tender years when she became his wife. His relative, Jeremiah Townley, remained in London, where he was styled a "Gentleman." He was buried in the church of St. Alphage, London Wall, May 4, 1727. His daughter and only child married, when about twenty-one years of age, Richard Chase (son of Samuel Chase, "Citizen and Joyner" of St. Giles in the Fields, London), who became a clergyman of the Church of England. I give below a copy of their marriage license and the record of their marriage: —

"28th May, 1714. Which day appeared personally Richard "Chase, of the parish of St. Andrew, Holborn, London, aged 22 "years and a Bachelor and alledged that he intendeth to marry "with Margaret Frances Townley, of the same parish, aged "about 21 years and a Spinster. Not knowing or believing any "impediment by reason of any pre-contract, consanguinity, affin- "ity, or any other lawful means whatsoever to hinder the said "intended marriage: of the truth of which he made Oath and "prayed License for them to be married in the parish church of "St. Michael, Wood Street, St. Bridget, alias Brides, or St. "Mary Magdalen, Old Fish Street, London.

RICHD CHASE."

From the Register of the Church of St. Mary Magdalen, Old Fish Street, London: —

"Richard Chase of St. Andrew, Holborn and Margaret "Frances Townley of the same parish, married Novemr 1, 1714."

Richard Chase and wife Margaret with sons Richard and Jeremiah came to America and finally settled in Calvert County, Maryland. Their son Jeremiah received a legal education and lived and died in Calvert County. Richard, his brother, settled in Baltimore, where he drew his will March 3d, 1756. His descendants, now living (ten in number), are the only representatives of the Chase-Townley alliance. They have preserved almost absolute silence concerning their family traditions, and

have done little or nothing in tracing their genealogy. This volume will convey to them, for the first time, the information that they descend from the Littleton branch of the Townley family, through the house of Royle, and that they are related to the descendants of Col. Richard Townley of New Jersey, who was of the same branch. The Townley family of New Jersey will also, for the first time, learn of their Chase relatives. The whole secret of the tradition of a "Townley-Chase" and "Townley-Lawrence" alliance, rests, without doubt, in the history of these two branches of the Townley family.

In 1738 Richard Chase and wife Margaret were in London, where she remained until her death.

Extract from the Register of Burials in the Parish Church (St. Mary) of Stoke Newington in the County of Middlesex: —

"Burials. 1741. January, 23, Margaret Frances Chase in "wollen only.

"RALPH THORESBY, Rector."

Richard Chase returned to America. He was Rector of Christ Church, Calvert County, Maryland, in 1739, and died in Charles County, Maryland, in 1742, intestate, his estate being administered upon by his son Richard.

As Edward Andrews, the grandfather of Margaret Frances Townley, was a man of great wealth and of some degree in his day and generation, the following will be of interest in this connection as relating to himself and family.

From the History and Antiquities of Leicestershire, by John Nichols, vol. 3, p. 8: —

"John Blount Esq. as son and heir male of William Lord "Mountjoy and Dorothy his wife, became seized of the Manor "of Allexton and levied a fine of it 2 and 3. Philip and Mary "in the Octaves of St Michaels, by which he with Anthony "Andrews settled the Manor and Advowson on Richard Perkins, "for which Richard Perkins and his heirs were to pay him and "the heirs of his body, yearly, £42. 4s. at the font of St. Paul's "Church in London; in default of such heirs then to James

"Lord Mountjoy and his heirs. Richard also granted the "Manor and Advowson to said Anthony and his heirs, which "Anthony Andrews was also seized of the Manor of Bisbrooke, "Co. Rutland, and died 20 Dec. 3 and 4. Philip and Mary, "whereupon the said Manors of Allexton and Bisbrooke de-"scended to Edward Andrews son and heir of Anthony, who "by Inquisition taken at Uppingham 3 Nov. 5 and 6 Philip and "Mary, was found to be 12 years of age and in ward of the "Crown. 20 June, 10 Eliz. the said Edward Andrews came to "be 21 years of age and the Queen 27 Nov. 10 Eliz. gave him "Livery of his lands.

"Judgment was given against Edward Andrews for John "Blount and Ralph Bradley, Mich. 13 and 14 Eliz. Rot. 1568 in "coram Banco."

[NOTE. — From Coke's Entries, pp. 499–501. And see Report of this Case in Dyer, fol. 31°, a and b. Pasch. 14 Eliz.]

"John Blount seized the Manor and sold it to Henry Lord "Cromwell and heirs — by reason whereof great suits happened "between the Lord Cromwell and Andrews from 14 Eliz. to 43 "Eliz." [*Vide* Second Part of Reports of the R. H. Lord Coke, where the case with full resolutions is set down at large. Cromwell and Andrews, fol. 69, b. of the first edition, or vol. 1, Part 2, p. 69, edition 1727.] "Charles Blount Lord Mount-"joy, died April 3, 1606 (he was Earl of Devonshire) at the "Savoy in the Strand, without lawful issue, and was buried in "Westminster Abbey in St. Paul's Chapel leaving all his lands "to Mountjoy Blount his natural son, who, by special favor of "King James, having been advanced to the title of Lord Mount-"joy, of Mountjoy Fort, in the north of Ireland: and by King "Charles 1st, in 1627 Lord Mountjoy of Thurveston, Co. Derby, "was the next year by Patent, bearing date Aug. 3, 1628, "created Earl of Newport in the Isle of Wight. Died Dec. 12, "1665."

The above mentioned Edward had Anthony Andrews, Sheriff of the County of Rutland in 1613: who left, among other

children, Edward Andrews, who married for his second wife Mary Holder, by whom he had (among others) Edward Andrews, the grandfather of Margaret Frances Townley, who in his will mentions "the Reversion of one Annuity of Seaven pounds "per annum payable out of the Exchequer after the death of "Susannah Countess Dowager of Newport."

In the church at Allexton "on a square stone over the out "ward entrance is this inscription:"—

ED. ANDROWES.
THE FOUNDER
HEREOF
AO D'NI. 1594. R.E. 36.
DEO GRACIAS.

Edward Andrews, the grandfather of Margaret Frances Townley, married for his second wife, July 23, 1680, Lady Browne Dalston, widow of Sir George Dalston of Heath Hall, Warmsfield, Co. York, and of Dalston, Co. Cumberland, Knight. By his first wife this Edward had Frances who married Jeremiah Townley, of London, Gent., and was buried in the Church of St. Giles in the Fields, Jan. 15, 1693. The following extract from the will of Edward Andrews shows that his grand-daughter was living with him and his wife Lady Browne Dalston at the time he drew his will in 1703. "Provided "allwayes and I doe hereby order and direct that if the said "Jeremiah Townley or any other person or persons than my "said deare wife and the said Trustees shall at any time or "times during and untill my said grand-daughter shall attaine to "the age of one and twenty yeares or day of marriage after six-"teen yeares of age first happening by virtue or under pretence "of any right to or guardianship whatsoever of my said grand "daughter Margaret Frances Townley take away keepe or "maintain my said grand daughter the said Annuity or yearly "summe of fifty pounds shall for such time or times as she shall "be so taken away kept or maintained contrary to the true

"intent and meaning of this my will cease determine and be "utterly void and of none effect."

Edward Andrews drew his will Dec. 6, 1703, and a codicil thereto Feb. 27, 1703 (old style), at which time he was Captain of Horse, and a wealthy gentleman residing in the Parish of St. Giles in the Fields. The bulk of his property was given to William Turton of Clifford's Inn, London, Gent., and James Crayle, Citizen and Stationer of London, in trust for his grand-daughter Margaret Frances Townley, to be given to her when she became twenty-one years of age or "upon the day of her "marriage after sixteen yeares of age first happening." Edward Andrews was buried in the Church of St. Giles in the Fields, March 6, 1703–4.

His will was proved March 14, 1703–4, by his widow and sole executrix, Lady Browne Dalston, *alias* Andrews. This will is of record at Somerset House, London.

From the extract above quoted, it will be seen that Edward Andrews was anxious to have his wife take the entire charge of his grand-daughter, and that she should be brought up in accordance with her station in life. August 2, 1704, the widow of Edward Andrews (as Lady Browne Dalston, *alias* Andrews) married Sir Richard Fisher of St. Mary, Islington, County of Middlesex, Baronet, who was buried Oct. 14, 1707, in whom it is supposed the title became extinct. Lady Browne Fisher was buried at Islington, March 24, 1740.

It may fairly be supposed that Margaret Townley received a good education, and was reared amidst the surroundings of wealth and refinement; and, as she was heiress to a large estate, she was doubtless considered an eligible match for some one of the Nobility.

Her portrait now in Annapolis shows her to have been a lady of beauty and intelligence. Her father, styled "Jeremiah "Townley, Gentleman," was descended, through the houses of Littleton and Royle, from the family of Towneley, of Towneley Hall, Lancashire, whose pedigree is one of the most ancient in Great Britain. His elder and only brother Francis, an eminent Turkey merchant of the city of London, was buried Feb. 27,

1734, in St. Michael's Church, Bassishaw, London, leaving a fortune of over $500,000.

This fortune, for a merchant of those days, was a very large one; and there is little doubt in the mind of the writer that his next of kin were cheated out of it. A will purporting to have been his (giving almost his entire estate to one Liebert Dorrian) was believed by his next of kin to have been a forgery, and by them was contested, but under conditions where there was little chance of recovery.

Richard Chase was born in East Moulsey, January 3, 1691–2. His father, Samuel Chase, "Citizen and Joyner" of London, was thrice married. His first wife, whom he married in 1691, was Catharine Davis, by whom he had Richard, Thomas, and Catharine. He married for his second wife, in 1708, Mary Walton, Spinster, aged 30. His third wife was Henrietta Catharine Swain, whom he married in 1715, and by whom he had Samuel, Bridget, and Mary. He was the son of Richard Chase of St. Martin's in the Fields, London, whose marriage record is given below.

Register of St. Michael's, Cornhill, London, p. 37:—

"Publication 19 and 26 April and 3 May 1657, of a marriage "between Richard Chase of St. Martins in the Fields, brick-"layer, and Bridgett Monday of this parish, spinster. May 7, "the said Richard Chase and Bridgett Monday were married "by Ald^{n}. Tho. Atkin."

Samuel Chase drew his will Nov. 26, 1720, and letters of administration were granted to his son Samuel upon his attaining his majority, Oct. 13, 1738. In his will he desires "to "be interred under my pew in St. Giles Church." In his will he mentions his daughter-in-law, Margaret Frances, wife of his eldest son Richard.

The executors of his will were his wife Henrietta Catharine Chase, Torrand Swain her uncle, and Edward Byng, Gent., who were also guardians of such of his children as were under age.

The reader will note, that although Richard Chase was of good birth, and his parents were of respectability and means, yet his wife's condition in life — an heiress and a companion of the Nobility — was superior to his own; and from this contrast the tradition probably arose that "Lady Townley married "beneath her station."

Thomas, the second son of Samuel Chase, and brother of Richard, also emigrated to America. "He was a graduate of "Cambridge England, became a physician and emigrated to the "Island of St. Thomas in the West Indies, but taking Orders "he came to Maryland in Somerset County. He married a "Miss Walker, she dying, left him with his son Samuel the "subsequently celebrated Judge Chase. He afterwards mar- "ried again & had 2 sons and 2 daughters: one son was lost "at sea. The other was killed at Braddock's Defeat by the "Indians.

"The daughters never married. He died April 4, 1779. He "was a Whig of the Revolutionary period."— Rev. Ethan Allen.

Feb. 5, 1744, Thomas Chase became Rector of St. Paul's Church, Baltimore, having resigned *codie* the rectorship of Somerset Church, Somerset County, Maryland. His son Samuel Chase lived to become one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence and to take an important part in the management of the affairs of this Republic.

In a codicil to the will of Edward Andrews, dated February 27, 1703, occurs the following: — "Item. Whereas I have "lately paid into the receipt of Her Majesty's Exchequer by "Colloneil Maurice Thompson the summe of ninety pounds in "part of the summe two hundred and seaventy pounds for the "purchase of eighteen pounds per annum in part of the summe "of fifty pounds per annum agreed to be sold for ninety-nine "years of the annuities lately granted by Act of Parliament I "doe hereby order and direct notwithstanding any thing con- "tained in my said Will to the contrary That my Executrix "shall pay the remaining one hundred and eighty pounds for "my purchase of the said eighteen pounds per annum when the

"same shall become due to be paid which said eighteen pounds
"per annum I doe hereby give and devise unto the said Wil-
"liam Turton and James Crayle. In trust nevertheless that
"the said William Turton and James Crayle and the survivour
"of them and the executors and administrators of such survi-
"vour shalt permitt and suffer my said deare wife Dame Browne
"Dalston and her assignes to receive and take the rents and
"profitts thereof to her owne use for and during the joint lives
"of my said deare wife and my grand daughter Margarett
"Frances Townley so that the said time shall not exceed the
"time that my said grand daughter shall attaine the age of one
"and twenty years or day of marriage after sixteen yeares
"which shall first happen. And if my said grand daughter
"shall attaine to the said age of one and twenty yeares or day
"of marriage after sixteen yeares first happening then that the
"said William Turton and James Crayle and the survivour of
"them and the executors and administrators of such survivour
"shall assigne convey and make over the said annuity of eigh-
"teen pounds unto my said grand daughter Margarett Frances
"Townley her executors administrators and assignes."

The above refers to the annuities mentioned by Sir William Halton, Baronet, in the letter dated London, December 19, 1747, and addressed to Richard Chase (son of Margaret Townley and Reverend Richard Chase) of Annapolis, Maryland, referred to in a preceding part of this chapter.

From this letter of Sir William Halton's, it would appear that, in 1747, six years after the death of Margaret Townley Chase and Dame Browne Fisher, these annuities were without a claimant, and that "in justice," as his letter states, they belonged to the heir male in America. The Chase family of America never received the benefit of these annuities as far as can be ascertained, and after a most diligent search to obtain a trace of them I have concluded that they have passed out of sight of the present generation, as the books in which a record of them was kept are not to be found. It will be seen that the above letter of Sir William Halton would naturally awaken an

interest among the descendants of Margaret Townley in this country who were the Chase family of Maryland, and that the tradition that there was a property in England belonging to the Chase family of America, one of whose ancestors had married a Lady Townley, would naturally find its way throughout the Chase families of this country.

Again, as shown in the pedigree, branch D., Dame Browne Fisher, by will drawn Feb. 8, 1736, proved Aug. 6, 1740, charges her estate in St. Andrew's, Holborn, London, "with the "payment of five hundred pounds apiece of lawful money of "Great Britain, unto Richard Chase and Jeremiah Chase, "children of Richard Chase and Margaret Frances, his wife, to "be paid them respectively at the end of three months next "after the decease of the said Dame Frances Halton, in case "they shall then have respectively attained their ages of twenty "one years."

This property was left in trust to Sir William Halton, her son-in-law, whom she made her sole executor: and in his will, codicil 3, drawn Feb. 7, 1754, proved Feb. 14, 1754, appears the following: — "And whereas my freehold estate in Holborn "stands charged with the payment of five hundred pounds "unto Jeremiah Chase, now I do hereby direct that my exec- "utors or one of them do out of my personal estate discharge "the same as soon as conveniently may be after my decease." This shows culpable carelessness, to say the least, on the part of Sir William Halton, as by the terms of the will of Dame Browne Fisher (of which he was sole executor), Jeremiah Chase was to have been paid five hundred pounds within three months after the death of Dame Frances Halton who was buried at Islington April 21, 1747.

Jeremiah Chase died intestate in Charles County, Maryland, in 1755. In a list of debts due him at the time of his decease, appears the one above of five hundred pounds due him from Sir William Halton, Bart. Thus it appears that he never received the money willed to him by Dame Browne Fisher, which was another cause for the belief that there was property in England belonging to the Chase-Townley descendants.

Sir William Halton died at Turnham Green Feb. 12, 1754, aged 74, having willed his entire estate, excepting some few legacies, to the Tuffnell family of Langleys in the County of Essex. In him the title became extinct.

SOME OF THE SILVERWARE BROUGHT TO AMERICA BY MARGARET (COMMONLY CALLED LADY MARY) TOWNLEY.

This chapter with the accompanying pedigrees of the main line and branches of the Towneley family, particularly branch D., constitutes the Final Report of Dr. Alfred Shepherd and myself to the descendants of Rev. Richard Chase and Margaret Frances Townley of London and Maryland. These descendants are only ten in number, nine of whom deeded to us a one-third interest in whatever property they might be entitled to

as coming from their ancestors, in return for which we agreed to trace the genealogy of Margaret Frances (Towneley) Chase, and obtain for such descendants the pedigree of the same; it being understood that they, the said descendants, should be put to no expense whatsoever, which has been done; and after years of patient labor, attended by heavy expense, we have pleasure in presenting to the said descendants the accompanying pedigree of their ancestress Margaret Frances (Towneley) Chase, together with much information relating to others of their family; at the same time we wish to thank them for the uniform courtesy extended to us while laboring in their behalf.

Signers of said deeds who wish them returned will please send postage and post-office address to Dr. Alfred Shepherd, Glendale, Ohio.

CHAPTER IV.

REFERS TO THE MAIN LINE OF THE TOWNELEY FAMILY, OF TOWNELEY HALL, NEAR BURNLEY, LANCASHIRE, ENGLAND.

JOHN TOWNELEY of Gray's Inn, London, and of Burnley in Lancashire, married, about 1556, Mary, daughter and sole heiress of Sir Richard Towneley Knight, by Frances, daughter and heiress of Christopher Wymbyshe, of Nocton, County Lincolnshire. [See Pedigree.]

By this marriage the Townley properties became united; and the following, copied from vol. 3, p. 93, of the Record Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, shows what disposition was made of them: —

"JOHN TOWNELEY ESQUIRE.

"Inquisition taken at Blackburne 20 May 6 "James [1608] before Nicholas Bannester, John "Braddill Esquires and Henry Southworthe, Gent. Feodary of "the County, after the death of John Towneley, Esquire, by "the oath of John Dewhurst, Thomas Whittaker, Richard "Hancocke, gentlemen, John Halstede, John Ainsworthe, Wil- "liam Barcrofte, Lawrence Ormerode, Robert Barker, Hugh "Marsden, Hugh Halstede, Thomas Ryley, Randle Holden, "Randle Holker, Abraham Colthurst & Nicholas Rigbie, "who say that John Towneley long before his death was seized "in fee of the Manors of Towneley,[1] Hapton,[2] Clivicher, & "Bertwisill, 150 messuages, 50 cottages, 40 tofts, 3 watermills, "200 gardens, 100 orchards, 2,300 acres of land, 500 acres of "meadow, 4000 acres of pasture, 1000 acres of wood, 1000 "acres of turbary, 4000 acres of furze & heath and £3. 6s "8d rent in Towneley, Hapton, Clivicher, Birtwisill, Burnley, Vol. 6. No. 78. 20 May, 1608.

"Burnleywoode, Habergham Eaves,[2] Brercliffe,[2] Extwisill,[2]
"Hurstwoode and Worsthorne;[2] two parts of the bailiwick of
"Blackburnshire or hundred of Blackburne, in 4 parts divided.
"Being so seized, by Indenture made 23 April, 43 Eliz. [1601,]
"between John Towneley & Mary, then his wife of one part,
"and Ralph Asheton of Lever, Esq. of the other part, in
"consideration of the marriage between Richard Towneley (son
"and heir apparent of the same John Towneley & Mary)
"and Jane one of the daughters of Ralph Asheton, & in per-
"formance of promises thereon made, as well as for the sum of
"£1000 paid to John Towneley by Ralph, and the natural love
"& affection borne by John Towneley and Mary toward the
"said Richard, and also toward Richard and Charles Towneley
"sons of Richard & Jane, and the younger children of John
"& Mary, and to the intent that the Manors &c. after the
"death of John & Mary might remain to their sons and the
"male issue of Richard & Jane, John Towneley agreed that
"all persons then or thereafter to be seized of said Manors &c.
"should hold them to the use of himself for life: then succes-
"sively in tail male of Richard Towneley (his grandson) and
"Charles the sons & other sons thereafter to be born of
"Richard & Jane: then likewise in tail male of John 2d,
"Christopher 3d, Charles 4th, Nicholas 5th, sons of the said
"John Towneley: in default to the use of the right heirs of
"Richard, son of Richard son & heir of John Towneley. By
"virtue whereof & by force of the Statute of Uses, John
"Towneley had a life estate with remainders as above. Further,
"one Frances Townley, widow of Richard Towneley, Knt. was
"seized in fee (inter alia) of the Manors of Nocton & Dun-
"stan, co. Lincoln: 50 messuages, 30 tofts, 3 mills, 3 dove-
"houses, 50 gardens, 400 acres of land, 300 acres of meadow,
"500 acres of pasture, 100 acres of wood, 10,000 acres of heath,
"and £10 rent in Nocton & Dunstan, together with the
"advowson of the church of Water Willoughbie alias Scott
"Willoughbie, co. Lincoln: and she took to husband at Nocton
"Alexander Radcliffe Esq. whereby they were seized of the
"said Manors &c. in her right. Afterwards a fine was levied

"at Westminster on the morrow of Trinity Sunday 10 Eliz. "[14, June 1568] between Richard Sherburne Knt. and Francis "Holte Esq. plaintiffs, & Alexander Radcliffe & Frances, "his wife deforciants of the Manors &c. in co. Lincoln, to the "use of Frances for life, then of Alexander for life: after to "the use of the said John Towneley and Mary for their lives "and the life of the survivor, then of Richard son and heir of "John and Mary and his issue: failing which, successively in "tail to every son in order of birth & then to the daughters "of John & Mary: & lastly to the use of Mary & her heirs "forever: as appears by the Transcript of the Fine and by an "Indenture made 5 May, 10 Eliz. [1568] between Alexander "Radcliffe and Frances of one part and John Towneley & "Mary of the other part. By virtue whereof & by the Statute "of Uses, Alexander and Frances had an estate therein for "the life of Frances, as in her right. John Towneley was also "seized in fee of two parts (in three to be divided) of the site "of the Priory of Nocton Parke, the Rectory of Nocton, the "Manors of Water Willoughby, Osbornby & Allington [co. "Lincoln] 20 messuages, 10 cottages, 20 tofts, a watermill, 20 "gardens, 20 orchards, 500 acres of land, 200 acres of meadow, "500 acres of pasture, 100 acres of wood, 40 acres of furze & "heath, 500 acres of marsh & 40s. rent in Nocton, Methring- "hame, Dunstan, Water Willoughby, Osburnby, Inglebye, "Nambye, Newton & Allyngton, co. Lincoln. So being seized "by Indenture made 1 October, 26 Eliz. [1584] between him- "self of one part, & John Parker gentleman, Barnard Towne- "ley, gentleman, John Towneley son and heir apparent of "Barnard, and John Woodroffe, of the other part, John Towne- "ley demised the said two parts of the Site of the Priory &c. "to the same John Parker & others for 41 years immediately "following his decease, at 4d. rent to be paid at Michaelmas.

"The Manors, &c. in Nocton & Dunstan, with the advowson "of the church of Water Willoughby are held of the King in "capite by the 40th part of a knight's fee and are worth per ann. "(clear) £10. The said two parts of Manors &c. are held by "the King in capite by the service of two parts (thirds) of a 5th

"part of a knight's fee & are worth per ann. (clear) £7 15s "10d. of the King as of his Duchy of Lancaster are held; by "knight's service the Manors of Towneley and Hapton worth "per ann. (clear) £10: in free and common socage the Manors "& Messuages &c. in Clivicher and Birtwisill worth per ann. "(clear) £4; the Messuages &c. in Burnley, Burnleywoodd, "Habergham Eives, Brercliffe, Extwisill, Hurstwood & Wors- "thorn, worth per ann. (clear) 59s 4d.

"John Towneley died 3 March last [1607–8]: and Mary, his "wife, with Alexander Radcliffe and Frances died in his life- "time.

"Richard Towneley Esq. is his son & next heir now aged 42 "years and more."

From the above Inquisition, the reader will be enabled to form an idea of the extent of the property of the main line of the Towneley family as it was in 1608, and which has descended, with additions through various marriages, to the present generation, now belonging to the several daughters of the late Col. John and Col. Charles Towneley, in whom the male line became extinct. A private Act of Parliament August 6th, 1885 (48 & 49 Victoria, chapter 5), entitled the "Towneley Estates Act, "1885," provides for the distribution of the Towneley estates among the daughters above referred to. It is not necessary for me to refer to this Act *in extenso*, as its meaning is specific and explicit.

As shown in the preceding chapter, the story was widely circulated (principally through the efforts of D. B. Carver, Col. James F. Jaquess, and George W. Chase) that Mary Towneley, daughter of Richard Towneley and Margaret Paston, married a John Lawrence in 1690, had issue by him, and came to America. This story is false in every particular; but from the fact of its having been so widely circulated, all who have made a surface examination of the matter, have concluded that the story was true, and that the Towneley estates dealt with in this chapter belonged by right to American parties. Consequently, whenever an investigation has been made, the basis for such investigation has been the statement above referred to.

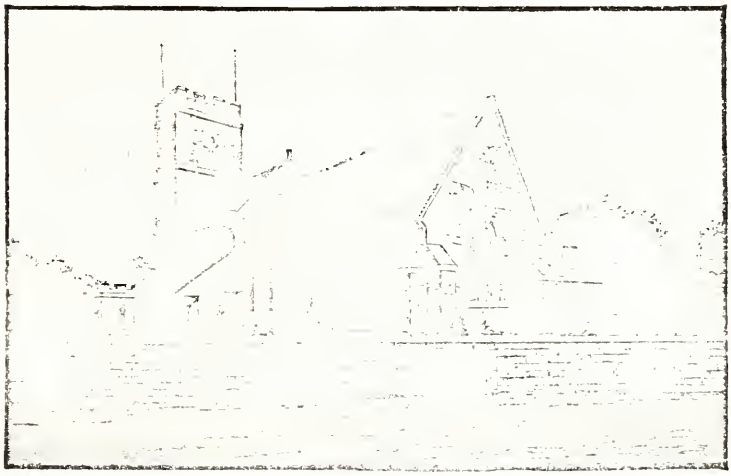
Mary Towneley, daughter of Richard Towneley and Margaret Paston, was not living in 1685, and consequently could not have married a John Lawrence in 1690. In a Chancery Bill dated April 13, 1709, wherein Charles Towneley (brother of Richard Towneley who married Margaret Paston, and one of the executors and trustees of said Richard's will) is complainant, and Charles Towneley (son of said Richard Towneley and Margaret Paston) is defendant, it is clearly stated that in 1685 the only living children of the said Richard Towneley were — "Charles his eldest son hereinafter named for a De- "fendant, Richard, Francis, Thomas, Dorothy, Frances, Marga- "ret and Cecily." In the Answer to the above Bill, the defendant "believes that his said father had such Issue as in the Bill "is named & that all such Issue except Francis were living in "the year one thousand six hundred and eighty five and that he "had also Issue Clement and Richard his two eldest sons who "being dead without Issue this Defendant is eldest son and heir "to the said Richard Towneley, the Surrenderer." This Chancery Bill and Answer is of record in Her Majesty's Record Office, Fetter Lane, London. I have copies of this Bill and Answer, but they are too lengthy to introduce here. From the above it will be clearly seen that as Richard Towneley and Margaret Paston had no daughter Mary living in 1685, they could not have had a daughter Mary to marry a John Lawrence in 1690. There is *nothing like facts*, and I trust that henceforth no one will be found so foolish as to attempt to prove that Richard Towneley and Margaret Paston had a daughter Mary who married a John Lawrence. This story deceived me, and has cost me much hard work and a heavy expense to prove its falsity; and now that it has been *proven to be false*, I wish to warn others against ever again paying any attention to it.

CHAPTER V.

THE ROYLE AND LITTLETON BRANCHES OF THE TOWNLEY FAMILY.

THE traditions concerning a Townley property belonging to heirs in America, are traceable to the Littleton branch of the Townley family, which descends from the main line through Nicholas Towneley, of the House of Royle, in Lancashire. The seat of the Littleton branch was Littleton Place in Littleton, County Middlesex, about twelve miles from London: where, in the Parish Church of St. Mary Magdalen, Francis Towneley, the ancestor of the Townleys of Littleton, lies buried. The following is a copy of the record of his burial:—"1636. 10mo Die Augusti Franciscus Towneley Armiger sepultus fuit.

EDWARD SINGER,
ANTHONY HUTCHINSON } *Church Wardens.*"



CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALEN. (FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.)

This church with its square Norman tower, heavy oaken beams and seats, black and worm-eaten with age, is interesting

in the extreme. The chancel of the church is much larger than the nave: and in front of the entrance to the vestry is a brass tablet set into the stone floor dating back to 1553, and bearing the following inscription: —

"Here lyeth ladye Blanche Vaughan sometyme wyfe of Syr. Hugh Vaughan Knyght who lyeth buryed at Westminster which ladye Blanche restyd the viii day of december Ann° dm. Mdliii. whose soules Jhu. pdo."

Anne Vaughan, a daughter of the above, married Nicholas Towneley of Royle in County Lancaster, a grandson of Nicholas Towneley and Elizabeth Caterall. The last-named Nicholas was founder of the House of Royle. (See Pedigree.) The son of said Anne was Edmund Townley of Royle, who married Catharine Curson, whose son, Francis Towneley, became heir to his great uncle Francis Vaughan, Esq., and ancestor of the Townleys of Littleton.

In November, 1643, Nicholas Townley [the father of Richard Townley of Elizabethtown, New Jersey] brought a Chancery suit to obtain possession of the estates of Greenfield and Royle in Lancashire, near Burnley, which were without an heir at the death of his uncle Nicholas Townley. This suit caused much excitement among the members of the Littleton branch of the family, the full details of which may be found in the Records of the Chancery Court. I quote below a portion of the Chancery Bill of the Complainant Nicholas Townley.

[*Copied from Chancery Bills and Answers.*]

Bundle. TT No. 16. No. 57 in Bundle. Of Record in Her Majesty's Record Office, Fetter Lane, London.

TOWNLEY *versus* TOWNLEY.

"30 Die November 1646

"To the Right Honorable Edward Earl of Manchester "Speaker of the House of Lords, William Lenthall Esquire "Speaker of the House of Commons, Commissioners for the "Custody of ye Great Seal of England.

"Humbly complaining

"Sheweth unto your Honors Nicholas Townley of Littleton "in the County of Middlesex Esquire son and heir of Francis "Townley late of Littleton aforesaid Esquire deceased second "son of Edmund Townley late of Royle in the County of Lan- "caster Esquire deceased son and heir of Nicholas Townley "heretofore of Royle aforesaid Esquire deceased great grand- "father of your said Orator That whereas the said Nicholas "Townley your Orator's said great grandfather was in his "lifetime lawfully seized in his demesne as of fee tayle to him "and the heirs males of his body lawfully begotten of and in "the Manor or Lordship of Greenhead with the rights members "and appurtenances situate lying and being in Pendle in the "said County of Lancaster and of and in the Manor or Lord- "ship of Ightonhill with the rights members and appurtenances "lying and being in the parish of Colne in the said County of "Lancaster and of and in the Capital Messuage Mansion or "Manor house commonly called or known by the name of Royle "situate lying and being in Burnley in the said County of Lan- "caster and of and in divers messuages lands tenements and "heriditaments to the said Capital Messuage Mansion or Manor "house belonging or appertaining and of and in divers other "messuages situate lying and being in Pendle Colne Clitton and "Marsden and in other towns and places in the said County of "Lancaster and in the County of York some whereof were held "by several free Deeds or Charters and others of them by sev- "eral copies of Court Rolls of several Lords of Manors in the "said County of Lancaster all which said several Manors Mes- "suages lands tenements and heriditaments and other the prem- "ises whereof the said Nicholas Townley the great grandfather "was so seized were and are worth nine hundred pounds per "annum or thereabouts to be let or feff and the said Nicholas "Townley the great grandfather being so seized about fourscore "years since died thereof so seized after whose decease all and "singular the said Manors Messuages lands and other the prem- "ises did descend and come unto Edmund Townley Esquire "your Orator's grandfather only son and heir male of the body

"of the said Nicholas Townley your Orator's late great grand-
"father And the said Edmund Townley your Orator's late
"grandfather thereupon entered into all and singular the said
"Manors Messuages lands and the premises and was thereof
"seized to him and the heirs males of his body begotten and
"having issue male of his body begotten Nicholas Townley his
"eldest sonne the said Francis Townley late of Littleton afore-
"said your Orator's late father his second son Richard Townley
"his third son Thomas Townley his fourth son Robert Townley
"his fifth son Barnard Townley his sixth son about threescore
"years since died of all and singular the said Manors Messuages
"lands and other the premises so seized or after whose decease
"all and singular the said Manors Messuages lands and other the
"premises did descend and come as of right the same ought to
"descend and come unto the said Nicholas Townley eldest son
"and heir male of the said Edmund Townley and late uncle to
"your said Orator And the said Nicholas Townley the uncle
"thereupon entered in all and singular the said Manors Mes-
"suages lands and other the premises and was thereof seized to
"him and the heirs males of the body of the said Nicholas
"Townley the great grandfather lawfully begotten and so held
"and enjoyed the said Manors Messuages lands and all other
"the premises for divers years together and the said Nicholas
"Townley the uncle being so seized about two years now last
"past died thereof so seized without any issue male of his body
"begotten by or after whose decease all and singular the said
"Manors Messuages lands and other the premises did descend
"remain and come or of right ought to have descended remained
"and come to your Orator as son and next heir male of the
"body of the said Nicholas Townley the great grandfather
"begotten vizt. — son and heir of the said Francis Townley
"who died in the life time of the said Nicholas Townley the
"uncle and was second son of the said Edmund Townley the
"grandfather son and heir of the said Nicholas Townley
"the great grandfather as in and by several deeds and convey-
"ances made and executed for settlement of the premises in
"manner and form aforesaid if in case your Orator had the same

"to produce it would and may appear But now so it is may
"it please your Honors the said Robert Townley fifth son of
"the said Edmund Townley the grandfather and uncle to your
"Orator Barnard Townley youngest son of the said Edmund the
"grandfather and one of the uncles of your said Orator Nicho-
"las Townley son of the said Robert Townley Isabell Town-
"ley the relict of said Nicholas Townley the uncle Ralph
"Worthington Esquire Henry Coltlhurst John Nutter Gentle-
"man and Francis Duerdon did all of them in the life time of
"the said Nicholas Townley the uncle and not long before his
"death unjustly combine practise and confederate together to
"defeat and defraud your Orator of all and singular the said
"Manors Messuages lands and premises and the confederates to
"effect and compass their said unjust combination practise and
"confederacy taking advantage of the distractions and troubles
"of their times and of your Orator's remote habitation at Little-
"ton over a hundred and threescore miles from Royle aforesaid
"where the said Nicholas Townley his uncle continually kept
"house and lived and such time when the said Nicholas Town-
"ley the uncle lay languishing weak and feeble of the sickness
"whereof he died they the said confederates did not only sup-
"press conceal and divert several letters which the said Nicholas
"the uncle writ or caused to be written to your Orator and
"directed the same should be sent to him concerning the prem-
"ises but also did so work upon the said Nicholas his uncle in
"his said sickness when he was not himself and by the vehe-
"mence of his malady and the extremity of his age being near
"fourscore years old and the infirmities of his body he has
"become and grown weak in judgement memory and under-
"standing They then by like evident practise obtruded a
"writing upon him framed made and contrived by them or
"some of them to publish for his last Will and Testament and
"a deed or deeds by them also contrived framed and made of
"the said Manor and premises for him to sign seal and deliver
"by which he did as the said confederates do pretend give or
"convey the said Manors Messuages lands and all other the
"premises to and amongst them and their heirs or to some of

"them and the heirs males of his and their bodies or to some "such effect or for some such estate or estates to the apparent "disinheritance of your said Orator and defeating and defraud-"ing him of his right and estate of and in the premises," etc.

When it is remembered that the preceding Complaint was brought by *the father of Richard Townley of Elizabethtown, New Jersey*, who was also related to Margaret Townley who married Richard Chase and settled in Maryland, it will easily be perceived that a knowledge of this suit, as well as some of the bitterness with which it was prosecuted, crossed the Atlantic with the said Richard and Margaret Townley, where it was handed down to their descendants. There is no doubt in the mind of the writer that the estates of Royle and Greenfield (which, as the above Chancery Bill shows, were large and valuable) belonged by right to the Littleton branch of the family. But they descended, nevertheless, to Robert Townley and his son Nicholas, of Royle (two of the defendants mentioned in said suit), and remained in that branch of the family until the year 1796, when upon the death of Edmund Townley Esquire, the last heir male, they reverted to Anne Townley, sole surviving daughter of Thomas Townley, who, Aug. 12, 1756, married Robert Parker of Extwistle, Esq. Royle is now occupied by his descendant, the Reverend Arthur Townley Parker. When this valuable estate was without an heir male in Great Britain, it would appear that it should have descended to the eldest heir male of Col. Richard Townley of Elizabethtown, New Jersey. This was in 1796, and at that time the descendants of Col. Richard should have taken some action in the matter. The English Statute of Limitations prevents any claim being made, at this late day, to the above-mentioned properties.

Some four years since, Dr. Alfred Shepherd of Glendale, Ohio, President of the late Western Lawrence-Townley Association, one who had been grossly deceived by Col. James F. Jaquess and George W. Chase, determined with myself upon tracing, at our own expense, the genealogy and family history of Margaret Townley who had married in London the Rev. Richard Chase and

settled in Maryland — believing that her family history would prove a key to the solution of the traditions elsewhere referred to in this volume. With this object in view I proceeded to England, where I obtained after much search the facts given in Chapter III., and in branch D. of the pedigree. It was while doing this work that I learned that in 1796, for want of an heir male, the Greenfield and Royle properties had reverted to the female line. I did not have time on my first visit to England to devote myself especially to the family history of the Littleton branch of Townley. Upon my return to this country, my associate and myself thought there was a possible chance for the descendants of Col. Richard Townley to make a claim to this estate; and thus thinking, we determined to investigate the matter, upon condition that those of the descendants who would do so, should give us a deed of a one-half interest in whatever property they might be entitled to as descendants of Col. Richard Townley. On our part, we agreed to trace the pedigree of the said Col. Richard, and bear all the expense of such investigation, which has been done; and this chapter, with its accompanying pedigrees of the main line and branches of the Towneley family, constitutes the Final Report of Dr. Alfred Shepherd and myself to the descendants of the said Col. Richard Townley.

Not a dollar has been paid by any of the descendants to us to carry on this work and bring it to completion, nor has it been asked for: the arduous and expensive work has been performed without any remuneration whatsoever. And although it has yielded the said descendants no revenue, it has brought to them a knowledge of their family history, and a complete pedigree of their ancestor.

A copy of this book will be sent *free gratis* to each individual who has signed the deeds above referred to. These deeds are now in the keeping of Dr. Alfred Shepherd of Glendale, Ohio, who will, no doubt, on receipt of postage, return them to their respective signers, should they so desire.

The following, taken from Littell's Genealogy, shows some of the descendants of Col. Richard Townley, and Elizabeth Carteret, his wife: —

CHARLES TOWNLEY.

8th Gen.

CHARLES TOWNLEY, Esq. (son of Col. Richard Townley,) was born 1686, and died, 2d September, 1756, in his 70th year. Abigail, his widow, died 31st December, 1759. They were both buried in St. John's church yard, in Elizabethtown; they had children:

1. Effingham, who married Miss Rebecca Crane; he was born about 1710, married in 1735, and died about 1789.
2. Sarah or Abigail, who married John Herriman: their only daughter married Moses Hetfield.
3. Mary married Stephen Burrows; their only daughter married Anthony Morss.
4. Anne married Joseph Tooker, and had four sons, Charles, Joseph, Abner, and John Tooker.
5. Elizabeth married, 27th August, 1760, Caleb Crane, and left children:
   1. Nathaniel Crane, who married Sally Miller, daughter of Moses. [*See Crane.*]
   2. Abby, who married Amos Clark.

9th Gen.

EFFINGHAM TOWNLEY, (son of Charles,) and Rebecca Crane had children:

1. Richard, who was born 22d or 27th August, 1736, and died 4th August, 1801; he married 1st, Rachel Carpenter, born 15th December, 1733, and died 1764; 2d, Rhoda Clark, born 4th December, 1743, and died 21st July, 1823.
2. Catherine married Joseph Denman, of Springfield.
3. Joanna, who died in infancy.
4. Abigail married Mr. Pendergrass, of Philadelphia.
5. Peggy married Stephen Baker, and died in 1802.
6. George, who died in infancy.
7. Sarah married John Sayre, son of Joseph Sayre, of Elizabethtown, and died in 1815.
8. Mary married Jeremiah Jaggers.
9. Charles married 1st, Hannah Thompson, and died in 1802;

2d, Sarah Thompson, the widow of Moses Earl; 3d, —— ——, the widow of Timothy Miller.

10. George 2d married Martha Baldwin, daughter of Capt. Enos Baldwin.

11. Joanna 2d married John Donahoe, of Philadelphia, and died in 1804.

12. John married Phebe Bonnel, and died in 1801.

13. Jane married Daniel Osborn.

10th Gen.

RICHARD TOWNLEY, (1st son of Effingham, son of Charles,) and Rachel Carpenter, had children:

1. James, born 29th June, 1760, and was killed with a scythe, in 1772.

2. Rachel, born 12th December, 1763, married Henry Norris, and died 16th November, 1824; she had three children, who all died young.

Richard Townley by his 2d wife, Rhoda Clark, had children:

3. Jonathan, born 13th October, 1766, married, 11th December, 1787, Phebe Magie, daughter of John.

4. Phebe, born 20th October, 1768, married 28th January, 1788, Elder David Magie, son of John.

5. Clark, born 26th November, 1770, married 1st, Phebe Sale, daughter of Daniel Sale, Sen.; 2d, Emily Potter, daughter of Matthias Potter.

6. Rebecca, born 22d May, 1772, married Benjamin Haines, of Elizabethtown.

7. Rhoda, born 12th April, 1774, and died in 1776.

8. Sarah, born 26th October, 1776, married William Crane, Esq. son of Joseph. [*See Crane.*]

9. Elizabeth, born 22d August, 1780, married Jonathan M. Meeker, Esq. son of Isaiah Meeker, of New Providence, and had no children.

11th Gen.

JONATHAN TOWNLEY, (3d child of Richard, son of Effingham, son of Charles,) and Phebe Magie were married 11th

December, 1787; he died 29th September, 1827; they had children:

1. Richard, who married Hannah Wade, daughter of Jonas Wade, Esq. of Springfield.

2. Jonathan, Jun. married his cousin Rhoda Magie, daughter of Elder David Magie, of Elizabethtown, and had no children.

3. Phebe, twin to Jonathan, married Col. William Brown, of Elizabethtown.

4. Mary married Samuel Pierson, son of Deacon Pierson, of Union.

5. John married Eveline Nutman, daughter of Daniel, of Elizabethtown.

6. Rebecca married Ichabod Ogden, son of Ezekiel, of Elizabethtown, and had children:

1. Jonathan Townley Ogden; 2. John Joseph Ogden.
3. James Hervey Ogden; 4. Robert Townley Ogden.
5. Phebe Rebecca Ogden.

12th Gen.

RICHARD TOWNLEY, (son of Jonathan,) and Hannah Wade, had children:

1. Robert, who married Miss Baldwin, daughter of Johnson Baldwin.

2. Jonas Wade.

3. Phebe O. married, 20th November, 1851, Henry Meeker.

4. Harriet married Alexander Ball, son of David, of Newark.

5. James.

6. Richard, who died in February, 1848, aged about 16 years.

[NOTE.—Robert, Jonas, and James went to Fort Wayne, in Indiana, and are merchants there.]

PHEBE TOWNLEY, (4th child of Richard, son of Effingham, son of Charles,) and Elder David Magie had children:

1. Rhoda Magie, who married her cousin Jonathan Townley, Jun. [*See Townley.*]

2. David Magie married, 1st, Margaret Van Vechten, of Somerville, and had children: 1. Elizabeth Magie, who died at 18 months; 2. Phebe Magie.

His wife then died, and he married, 2d, Gertrude Frelinghuysen, daughter of General John Frelinghuysen, of Somerville, she died without children, and he married, 3d, Margaret Deliceau, and had children: 3. Gertrude Frelinghuysen Magie: 4. David Magie.

3. Betsey Magie.

4. Phebe Ogden Magie married Lewis F. Day, son of Foster Day, of Elizabethtown, and had children:

1. David Magie Day; 2. Eliza Boumel Day.

5. Mary Meeker Magie married Rev. Joseph Cory, son of Mulford, son of Elder Benjamin Cory, of Elizabethtown; he is a Presbyterian minister, settled in New Vernon; they had children, David Magie Cory, and others.

11th Gen.

CLARK TOWNLEY, (5th child of Richard, son of Effingham, son of Charles,) and Phebe Sale, had children:

1. Susan, who married Robert Meeker.

2. Daniel married Sarah Headley.

3. Richard; 4. Edward; 5. Mary.

And by his 2d wife, Emily Potter, had other children:

6. Jonathan; 7. Sally Anne.

REBECCA TOWNLEY, (6th child of Richard, son of Effingham, son of Charles Townley,) and Benjamin Haines had but one son, Richard T. Haines, who married Mariah Johnson, daughter of John Johnson, grocer, of New York; lived in Elizabethtown, and had children:

1. William A. Haines, who married Miss Stagg.

2. Benjamin Haines.

3. Elizabeth Haines.

4. Sarah Halsted Haines married, 22d May, 1850, Samuel Knox, of New York.

5. John Johnson Haines.

6. Mary L. Haines married, 20th February, 1851, her cousin William M. Halsted, Jun. son of William M. Halsted, merchant, New York.

7. Stewart Haines.

SARAH TOWNLEY, (8th child of Richard, son of Effingham, son of Charles Townley,) and William Crane, Esq. had children:

1. David R. Crane, who married Phebe Anne Hallam, daughter of Lewis, of New York.

2. Agnes Crane married Rev. Curtis Tally, a Methodist minister, and had a daughter, Helen Williams Tally.

3. Richard T. Crane married Jane T. Dollbeer, of Union, and had children: 1. Theodore T.; 2. Frederick T.

4. Joseph W. Crane married 1st, Harriet J. Willcox, daughter of Ezekiel, and had a daughter, Harriet Jemima Crane: his wife died, and he married 2d, Emma S. Brookfield, daughter of Lewis P. Brookfield, of Spring Valley, and had children:

2. Lewis W. Crane; 3. Charles Augustus Crane.

5. Jonathan T. Crane, who graduated at Princeton College, and became a Methodist minister, is principal of the Pennington male seminary, at Pennington, N.J. He married Mary Helen Peck, daughter of George Peck, D.D. of New York, and had children: 1. Mary Helen Peck, and others.

10th Gen.

SARAH TOWNLEY, (7th child of Effingham, son of Charles) and John Sayre had children:

1. Samuel Sayre, who married Polly Parker.

2. Joseph Sayre married Betsey Aiesworth.

3. John Sayre married Mary Jewel.

4. Job Sayre, who died in infancy.

5. Ezekiel Sayre married Sally Bonnel, daughter of John, near Chatham. [*See Bonnel.*]

6. Abigail Sayre married William Reid.

7. Nathan Sayre married Abigail Southwell.

SAMUEL SAYRE, (1st son of John Sayre and Sarah Townley,) and Polly Parker had children:

1. Joanna Sayre, who married Daniel Pierson, of Newark, and had an only daughter, who married and lives in New York.

2. Job Sayre married Phebe Crane; have no children.

3. Sally Sayre married Aaron Crane, and has one son.
4. Polly Sayre married Granville Tower, and had children:
   1. Job S. Tower, who married Miss Crane; lives in Elizabethtown, and had two children.
   2. Ezra Tower, who married in Morris County, and has several children.
5. Joseph Sayre, who married in Cincinnati; lives there, and has several children.
6. Nathan Sayre, who married a Mrs. Watkins, formerly Miss Gillam; has four children, all married, and live in New York.
7. John Sayre, who died unmarried.
8. Phebe Sayre married Benjamin Coe; lives in Connecticut, and has many children.

JOSEPH SAYRE, (2d son of John Sayre, and Sarah Townley,) and Betsey Alesworth had 8 children, only one of whom is living, Samuel Sayre, who married Elizabeth Telfair, and had 7 children.

10th Gen.

JOHN SAYRE, (3d son of John Sayre and Sarah Townley,) and Mary Jewel had ten children: only two of them are living:

1. James Hervey Sayre, who married Hannah Williams, and have 5 children.
2. Walter F. Sayre, who married Rachel Luster, and had 3 daughters.

EZEKIEL SAYRE, (5th son of John Sayre and Sarah Townley,) and Sally Bonnel had children:

1. Electa Sayre, who married Stephen Bowers, son of Daniel.
2. Catherine Sayre, who died at about 35 years, unmarried.
3. David Sayre married Mary Spencer, daughter of Samuel, son of William Spencer, Esq.
4. John Edgar Sayre.
5. Lewis Sayre.

ABIGAIL SAYRE, (6th child of John Sayre and Sarah Townley,) and William Reid had children:

1. Margaret Reid, who married William Bonnel, of Union, and had several children.

2. Isabella Reid, who married Joel Searing.

3. John Joseph Reid.

4. Sarah Reid.

NATHAN SAYRE, (7th child of John Sayre, and Sarah Townley,) and Abigail Southwell lived in Elizabethtown, and had children:

1. Joanna, who married Wickliff G. Broadwell, son of Jacob G. Broadwell, son of Hezekiah. [*See Broadwell.*] They have no children.

2. George T. Sayre married Eliza Bonnel, daughter of Sylvanus, son of John. He is a merchant of Madison, Morris County; has two children.

3. Sally Sayre; 4. Caroline Sayre.

5. Edward Sayre married Miss Rosette; had one child. His wife died, and he went to Illinois, and married again, and has other children.

6. Jane Sayre.

7. Francis Sayre married Susan Price, daughter of Edward, of Elizabethtown.

8. Albert Sayre married a Miss Sayre, of Newark, and lives there.

10th Gen.

CHARLES TOWNLEY.

CHARLES TOWNLEY, (9th child of Effingham, son of Charles Townley,) and Hannah Thompson had but one son:

1. Stephen, who married Elizabeth Bryant, daughter of Simeon Bryant, of Springfield.

And by his 2d wife, Sarah Thompson, had children:

2. Rebecca, who married Jacob Denman, son of Jacob, of Springfield.

3. Moses married Jane Lum, daughter of Clark Lum, of Union. And by his 3d wife, Mrs. Miller, had children:

4. Charles, who went to Washington, and married and died there.

5. George, who went away and has not returned.
6. Fanny married William Sanders, and lives at Mendham.

STEPHEN TOWNLEY, (1st son of Charles.) and Elizabeth Bryant had children:

1. William, who became a Presbyterian minister. He married Eliza Barton, daughter of John Barton, of Elizabethtown, and sister of the Rev. William B. Barton, of Woodbridge: is settled in Indiana, and has no children.
2. Charles, who died at about 20 or 21 years.

GEORGE TOWNLEY, (10th child of Effingham, son of Charles Townley.) and Martha Baldwin, removed from Connecticut Farms, in March, 1797, and bought of Thomas Scudder, a farm of 100 acres, near Union Village, in Passaic Valley, where they lived and died.

He was born 20th June, 1755, and died 28th September, 1840. She was born 30th November, 1755, and died 22d May, 1810, and Mr. Townley married, 2d, Elizabeth, the widow of Samuel Cory, and daughter of William Parsons. She died 6th May, 1847, without children. [*See Parsons.*] They had children:

1. Joanna, born 23d Nov. 1774, and married Samuel Headley, of Union.
2. David, born 20th March, 1777, married, 1st, Mary Tucker, daughter of James Tucker; 2d, Mary Marsh, daughter of Joseph Marsh, of Morristown.
3. George, who died 30th March, 1808, aged 24 years.
4. Effingham, who died 26th July, 1807, aged 21 years.
5. Phebe, born 14th January, 1789, married, 30th June, 1808, David Jaques, of New York.
6. Martha, who died 25th April, 1812, at 18 years of age, unmarried.
7. Enos Baldwin, who married, 1st, Sally Bonnel, daughter of Bellows Ben. Bonnel; 2d, Abigail Deforest, of Connecticut. [*See Bonnel.*]

11th Gen.

JOANNA TOWNLEY, (1st child of George,) and Samuel Headley, had children:

1. Phebe Headley married Richard Merrel, and had no children.

2. Hannah Headley married William S. Headley, son of Cary Headley, and had children:

   1. Joanna Headley, who married William S. Burnet, son of Capt. Jonathan Burnet, and had children: 1. Mary Burnet; 2. Martha Burnet; 3. Levi Burnet.
   2. Phebe Headley married Silas Burnet, brother of William S., and had children: 1. Roxanna Burnet; and others.
   3. Caroline Headley.
   4. John Headley married Sarah Courter, daughter of John E. Courter.
   5. Jane Headley married George Baker, of Hempstead, Long Island.
   6. Wicklyff Headley.

3. Samuel Headley died a young man, unmarried.

4. Martha Headley married Caleb Miller, son of Nathaniel, and had children:

   1. Isaac S. Miller, who married and lives in Newark.
   2. Davis Miller married and lives in Newark.
   3. Anne Miller.

5. George I. Headley died a young man, unmarried.

6. Davis Headley married Susan Ball, daughter of Ezekiel, son of Timothy, and had children:

   1. Sears Headley; 2. Wheeler Headley; 3. Andrew Headley; 4. Olivia Headley; 5. Laura Headley.

7. Mary Headley married Ewel Freeman, of Westfield, and died soon after, aged 18 years, without children.

DAVID TOWNLEY, (2d child of George,) and his first wife, Mary Tucker, had children:

1. Mary, who died a young woman, unmarried.

2. Martha married Squier Parrot, son of William. [*See Parrot.*] And by his second wife, Mary Marsh, had a son.

3. George, who married Mary Stuchfield, an English girl, and lives in New York.

PHEBE TOWNLEY, (5th child of George,) and David Jaques, lived in New York, and had children:

1. William Jaques.

2. Phebe Jaques, who married John W. Lewis, and had children: 1. Charlotte Augusta Lewis; 2. Philo Lewis; 3. Francis Lewis; 4. Edward Lewis.

11th, 12th Gen.

ENOS B. TOWNLEY, (7th child of George,) and Sally Bonnel, had children:

1. Joanna, who married Mr. Noe, went to Ohio, and died.

2. David E., born 5th April, 1815, who married Hannah Eliza Mulford, born 5th January, 1812, daughter of William, and had children:

13th Gen.

1. Sarah Elizabeth, born 10th July, 1840; 2. Hannah Jane, who died at 4 years; 3. Laura, born 30th March, 1846; 4. Phebe Jaques Floride, born 9th October, 1848; 5. Isabel.

3. Hannah Mariah married Jacob Jeroloman, of Newark.

4. Effingham married Mary Elizabeth Squier, daughter of Thomas, son of Stephen Squier, and had children:

1. Emily Parsons; 2. Montery Tailor; 3. Helen Flora.

5. Elizabeth married William Stevens, above Morristown.

6. Enos married Jane Wilson, of New York.

Enos B. Townley, by his 2d wife, Abigail Deforest, had children:

7. Mary; 8. Moses B.; 9. Susan; 10. Martha; 11. George; 12. Joanna 2d.

8th Gen.

EFFINGHAM TOWNLEY.

EFFINGHAM TOWNLEY, (son of Col. Richard Townley.) left two sons:

1. Richard; 2. Effingham, Jun.

RICHARD TOWNLEY, (son of Effingham,) was born 18th December, 1720, and married Catherine Anderson, 14th April, 1747, and had children:

1. William, born 21st January, 1748, died 2d May, 1749.
2. William 2d, born 15th May, 1750.
3. Rebecca, born 13th July, 1751, and died 13th Aug. 1751.
4. Walter, born 28th June, 1752.
5. Rebecca 2d, born 11th August, 1754, m. Benj. Hays.
6. Sarah, born 10th January, 1757.
7. Effingham, born 1st August, 1759.

EFFINGHAM TOWNLEY, JUN., (son of Effingham,) was born 11th December, 1729, and married in 1750, Jemima Earl, and had children:

1. Evetts, born 8th August, 1751.
2. Henry, born 1st February, 1754.
3. Joshua, born 24th August, 1757.
4. James, born 7th July, 1760.
5. Charles, born 30th March, 1762.
6. Richard, born 31st January, 1764.
7. John, born 9th September, 1766.

10th Gen.

EVETTS TOWNLEY, (1st son of Effingham, Jun.,) had a son Isaac, who had a son Clark, whose wife was Rachel, and lived near Jefferson's Village, and had children:

1. Margaret, born 1826.
2. Ezra, born 1830.
3. George, born 1834.

10th Gen.

JAMES TOWNLEY, (4th son of Effingham Townley, Jun.,) had children:

1. Matthias married, 1st, Nancy Searing, daughter of John, of Union; 2d, Johannah Smith, daughter of Walter, of Springfield.
2. Edward married, 1st, Miss Burrows; 2d, Abigail Price.
3. William married —— ——.
4. Else married Cornelius Badgley.
5. Sally married William Higgins.

11th Gen.

MATTHIAS TOWNLEY, (1st son of James,) and Nancy Searing had children:

1. William, born 17th Dec. 1775, married Margaret Tucker, daughter of Jacob, born 30th Oct. 1780.
2. Sally, who died unmarried.
3. Nancy married Ephraim Rino, of Short Hills.
4. Betsey married Elias Morgan, of Elizabethtown.
5. Sarah married David Allen, son of David. [*See Allen.*]
6. Edward married Anna Hamilton, daughter of David.

Matthias Townley, by his 2d wife, Johannah Smith, had children:

7. Isaac married Mary Collins.
8. Keziah married Mr. Evans, of Newark.
9. John Clark, who died at 25 years, unmarried.
10. Abby married Daniel Clark, son of Ichabod.
11. Smith, who did not marry.

12th Gen.

WILLIAM TOWNLEY, (son of Matthias,) and Margaret Tucker had children:

1. Matthias, born 20th Jan. 1798, married Hannah Smalley, daughter of David I., and had four children: 1. William; 2. David; 3. Huldah; 4. Harriet.
2. Alfred married Mary, widow of Cornelius Frazee, and daughter of John Tilyou; had no children.

3. Sally, who died Dec. 1st, 1805, aged 3½ years.

4. Piatt, born 6th May, 1804, married Sophia Mollidore, of Philadelphia, and had children: 1. Margaret; 2. Hannah; 3. George; 4. Susan; 5. Alonzo.

5. David, born 12th Oct. 1806, married Susan Clark, daughter of Stephen, of Westfield.

6. Sarah, born 12th Nov. 1808, married John McIntire, son of James, of New Brunswick, and had children: 1. William McIntire; 2. Ellen McIntire; 3. John Henry McIntire; 4. James McIntire.

7. Alexander, born 11th May, 1811, married Mary Samos, daughter of Charles, of Dover, Morris County, and had children: 1. William; 2. Anne; and died at about 24 years.

8. Amos, born 8th Aug. 1813, married Mary Tunison, near Somerville, and had a daughter, Mary.

9. Williams Mills, born 24th Jan. 1816, married his cousin, Joanna, daughter of Edward Townley, and had a son, George. His wife, Joanna, died, and he married, 2d, Martha Scudder, daughter of Abraham, and had a son, Silas Crane.

10. Anne, born 28th Jan. 1818, married Josiah G. Winn, from Connecticut, and had children: 1. Isaac Newton Winn; 2. Susan Emeline Winn; 3. Mary Elizabeth Winn; 4. Matilda Fairchild Winn; 5. Ellen Mansville Winn; 6. George Henry Winn.

11. Hannah, born 9th March, 1820, married Thomas Seaman, son of Joshua, and had children: 1. Thomas Jefferson Seaman; 2. Margaret Anne Seaman; 3. Hannah Mariah Seaman; 4. Stephen Franklin Seaman; 5. Harriet Newe Seaman.

12th Gen.

EDWARD TOWNLEY, (6th child of Matthias,) son of James, and Anna Hamilton lived in Westfield, and had children:

1. John Hamilton Townley, who became a Presbyterian minister; settled in Morristown. He married Cornelia Searing, daughter of James Searing, of Newark.

2. Joanna, who married her cousin William Townley, son of William.

13th Gen.

3. David, who died at the age of 24 years.
4. Anne Elizabeth married Lewis Bunn.
5. William, who died 20th Dec. 1848, aged 23 years.
6. Israel married Mary Whitehead, daughter of Enos Littell Whitehead, of Elizabethtown.
7. Matthias.
8. Mary Louisa.
9. Harriet.
10. Almira, who died at 4 years.
11. Gertrude, who died at 2 years.

CHAPTER VI.

ELIZABETH LAWRENCE ALIAS CARTERET ALIAS TOWNLEY, AND HER SON JOSEPH LAWRENCE, TOGETHER WITH SOME MENTION OF JOHN, THOMAS, AND WILLIAM LAWRENCE OF LONG ISLAND.

FROM Liber A of Deeds, p. 4, of Record at Jamaica, Queen's County, Long Island: —

"Entered at the desire of Mr Richard Smith &c. 30 March, "1681.

"These presents Wittnes that whereas there is a purpose of "joining in Marriage with Capt. Philip Carteret of New Jersey "itt is joyntly and fully agreed between him the aforesaid and "me Elizabeth Lawrence late wife of Capt. William Lawrence "of Flushing deceased — that I the aforesaid Elizabeth doe "reserve liberty to give and dispose of all my right of land and "meadow or housing within the Neck called Tews Neck unto "any of my sons whom I shall see good and that no engage- "ment whatever shall impead this agreement.

"ELIZABETH LAWRENCE.

"Wittneth
"RICHARD SMITH
"SARAH U. SMITH mark
"ABIGAIL NICOLLS"

Copy of the Will of Elizabeth Townley, of Record in the office of the Secretary of State, Trenton, New Jersey: —

"In the name of God, Amen, I, Elizabeth Townley, the "relict of Collo: Richard Townley of Elizabeth Town in ye "County of Essex & Province of New Jersey, D: s'd, do think

"fit to make this my last will & testament in manner and form "following I do give my Soul to God, hoping for Salvation, "thro' ye merits of my Lord and Saviour Jesus X't & my body "to ye Earth to be decently buried in hopes of a glorious "Resurrection at ye last day & as for my temporal goods, I "dispose of them, as followeth Imprimis I give unto my daugh- "ter Sarah Shackmaple all the furniture of ye room, in which "I now lye, viz't, The Bed Curtains & Cloathes & every thing "belonging to it, a chest of Drawers, a Small Table & a glass, "with the Chaires, I likewise give her two other Elbow-Chairs, "covered with ye same sort of stuff, wch is in ye Curtains of "ye said Bed. Item, I give & bequeath all my estate, Goods "& Chattels wtsoever that is mine, or ought to be mine, unto "my son Charles Townley, his Heirs & Assignes, excepting "half my plate, wch I give to my son Effingham towards ye "paymt of debts, & I charge & comand my son Effingham to "be just to his brother Charles by granting him forthwith after "my death a confirmation under his hand & seal for that land "wch he knows his Father designed him; I do hereby consti- "tute, authorize and appoint my dear son Charles to be sole "Executor of this my last will & Testament, revoking and "making null & void all other wills & Testamts by me hereto- "fore made, either by word or in writing.

"In Testimony Whereof I have hereunto set my hand and "seal this eight day of March in ye Tenth year of ye Reign "of Anne over great Brittaine, ffrance & Ireland Queen &c "Annoq Dom 1711-12.

"The mark of
"Elizabeth Townley L. S.

"Signed, Sealed, published & declared by ye Testatrix to be her last Will & Testament in ye presence of us: EDWARD VAUGHAN, DEBORAH LAWRENCE, MARGARET WILLOCKS.

"Memorandum yt part of ye "twelfth & thirteenth line was "blotted out before ye signing "& sealing of this Instrumt."

The second husband of the above lady was Sir Philip Carteret, of the Isle of Jersey in England, who was first governor of the Province of New Jersey in America.

He drew his will Dec. 10, 1682, which was proved the same month. In this will he gives his mother, Madame Rachell Carteret, all his houses, lands, *et cetera*, in the Isle of Jersey, for her use during her life, and at her decease to be divided among his brothers and sisters. He gives "to my most dear and lov-"ing wife," all his houses, lands, *et cetera*, in New Jersey, "unto "her and her heirs forever," and makes his "dear wife" his sole executrix. (See Liber A or 5 of Deeds, p. 17, Trenton, New Jersey.)

The maiden name of Elizabeth-Lawrence-Carteret-Townley was Smith. She was a daughter of Richard Smith, the patentee of Smithtown, L.I. She married for her first husband Capt. William Lawrence of Flushing, L.I., and had by him, among other children, Joseph, who, it has been said, married a Mary Townley. There is no evidence to show that such a marriage ever took place.

In Liber H 2 of Deeds, p. 348, in Trenton, New Jersey, appears a deed signed by Joseph Lawrence, who deeds to Joseph Bonny of Woodbridge certain lands in East New Jersey. In this deed the grantor describes himself as "Joseph Lawrence of "Flushing, in Queen's County in Nassau Island and Province "of New York Gent. eldest son of Elizabeth Lawrence alias "Carteret alias Townley deceas[d] of Elizabeth Town in the "Province of East New Jersey." This deed was drawn May 3, 1735, and "Recorded June 26, 1755 by Affirmation of Daniel "Lawrence being of the people called Quakers," who was one of the witnesses.

From the fact that widow Elizabeth Lawrence became the wife of Sir Philip Carteret in 1681, the year after the decease of her first husband, and that, a short time after the decease in 1682 of her second husband, she married Richard Townley (who did not die until the latter part of 1707), it seems reasonable to suppose that her children *née* Lawrence, who were still young, lived with her in the home of her third husband, and

grew up with the children *née* Townley of this third marriage. As it was quite natural that Richard Townley should have christened his eldest son Effingham, in remembrance of his friend Lord Howard, Baron of Effingham, in whose *suite* he came to America, it follows quite as naturally, that, out of regard for Effingham Townley, his Christian name should have been given to the grandson of his half-brother, Joseph Lawrence, and have come down through successive generations of both families.

The descendants of Joseph Lawrence, because Effingham has been used as a Christian name in their family, have looked upon that fact as of much importance in support of their tradition that their ancestor married Mary Towneley, daughter of Sir Richard Towneley of Lancashire, as they have believed that Dorothy Towneley (sister to Mary) married Francis Lord Howard, Baron of Effingham, which was not the case, as is shown below.

The following, from "Holgate's American Genealogy," forms the basis for the numerous traditions prevalent among the descendants of William Lawrence that his son Joseph married a Mary Towneley in 1690:—"Joseph Lawrence of Flushing, "Long Island, in 1690, married Mary Townley daughter of Sir "Richard Townley, son of Charles Townley who fell at Marston "Moor. At the Restoration he was under the necessity of selling "a very valuable estate at Nocton, near Leicester, in consequence "of losses sustained by Sequestration. His daughter Dorothy, "the younger sister of Mary, married Francis Howard of Corby "afterward Baron Howard of Effingham, and who on the 8th of "December, 1731, was created 1st Earl of Effingham. He died "1743."

In the preceding there is no room for doubt as to which Sir Richard, Mary and Dorothy Towneley, are referred to. In Chapter IV. I have shown that the said Richard Towneley had no daughter Mary living in 1685, and consequently could have had no daughter Mary in 1690 to have married Joseph Lawrence. And particularly so since his, the said Richard's, wife, died in 1672. Dorothy Towneley referred to in the above extract was the second wife of Francis Howard, Esq., of Corby:—"Cap-

"tain of a Regiment of Foot and sometime Governor of Car-"lisle. Born 29 June 1635, died Dec. 17, *1702*, buried at "Wetherel." — Monumental Inscription.

Dorothy his widow died 13 Dec. 1712. Said Francis Howard was never created Baron of Effingham, nor did he leave any male issue. And yet, on the statement published in "Holgate's "American Genealogy," hundreds of people have been led to believe that the descendants of the said Joseph Lawrence were also descended from the main line of the Towneley family of Lancashire. Neither John nor Joseph Lawrence ever married Mary Townley who was sister to Dorothy Towneley. Neither John nor Joseph Lawrence ever married Mary Towneley, daughter of Sir Richard Townley and Mary Widdrington. There is not an iota of evidence to show that the said Joseph Lawrence married a lady whose maiden name was Mary Towneley, either in the latter part of the seventeenth, or in the early part of the eighteenth, century; but there is an abundance of proof to show that there was no Mary Towneley belonging to the main line of the Towneley family at that time whom he could have married.

John, Thomas, and William Lawrence of Long Island were brothers from St. Albans in Hertfordshire, England. They came to this country in 1635 in the ship "Planter," Nicholas Trarice commander; and it has been supposed that the maiden name of their mother may have been Towneley. Such supposition I know to be erroneous, as I have not only a copy of the record of the birth of each of the said brothers, as well as a copy of the record of the birth and marriage of their parents and grandparents, but also the "coat-of-arms" of their mother's family.

CHAPTER VII.

REFERS TO LAWRENCE, CHASE, AND OTHER FAMILIES HAVING THE TRADITION THAT ONE OF THEIR ANCESTORS MARRIED A LADY TOWNLEY.

I COME now to the families of Experience Lawrence who married Jabez Keep of Westford, Mass., and Tryphena Lawrence who married her cousin Jonas Lawrence of Canaan, Conn.

The descendants of the above have for many years believed that they were from the Towneley family through one Jonathan Lawrence who was son to John Lawrence and Mary Towneley, daughter of Sir Richard Townley, and sister to Dorothy Towneley of Lancashire.

I have already shown that no John, or any other Lawrence, ever married Mary, sister to Dorothy Towneley; and this fact alone destroys the truthfulness of their family tradition.

But, as I have traced step by step the pedigree of the said Experience and Tryphena Lawrence, it may not be out of place to refer to it in brief in this connection.

Will of Major Eleazer Lawrence. Of Record in Liber 27 of Wills, p. 270, Cambridge, Mass.: —

"In the name of God Amen the twenty ninth Day of Decem-
"ber and in the year of our Lord one Thousand Seven Hundred
"and forty nine I Eleazer Lawrence of Littleton in ye County
"of Middx in New England Gentm Being of Perfect mind and
"memory but calling to mind the mortality of my Body and
"knowing that it is appointed for men once to Die Do make
"this my Last Will and Testament that is to say first of all I
"Recomend my soul in to The hands of God that gave it

"hoping through the merits of Jesus Christ to have free pardon "of all my sins and to Inherit Eternal Life and my body I "commend to the Earth to be Decently Buried at ye Discre- "tion of my Executors hereafter named and as Touching such "Worldly estate wherewith God has Bestowed on me I Dispose "in Manner and form as follows. Itn. I give and Bequeth "to Mary my Dearly Beloved wife allimony and Bonds & notes "for money due to me at my Decease and all ye Household "Goods waring apparil and Cattle to her & her heirs and as- "signs forever and also Improvement of the house Barn and "Lands That I shall Dye seazed off. During her life, she paying "my just debts & funeral charges. Itm. I give and bequeath "to my five sons viz. to my son Pelag Lawrance Jonath[n] Law- "rance David Lawrance Eleazer Lawrance and Samuel Law- "rance to them and their heirs & assigns the sum of Five "shillings in money to each of them with what I have given "to each of them by Deeds to be the full of their Portion out "of my estate.

"Itm I give to my Daughters viz to ye heirs of my Daugh- "ter Elisabeth Buttrick Decea[d] twenty shillings in money & "to my Daughters Mary Fletcher Sarah Cumings and Expe- "rance Keep Prudence Parker and to each of them or their "heirs the sum of twenty shillings in money with what they "have received before is to be the full of their portions out of "my estate all which Legases to be paid unto them or their "heirs in one year after my Decease by my executors hereafter "named hereby I Do constute and appoint my wife abov[s]d and "my son David Lawrance to be my Executors of this my Last "will and Testament Disallowing all others aforemade by me. "In witness whereof I have set my hand and seal the Day and "year above the words & Bonds & nots for money interlined "before signing.

"ELAZA LAWRANCE [SEAL]

"Signed sealed published and De- "clared to be the last will & "Testament of Eleazer Law- "rance. In presence of } WILLIAM LAWRENCE NATHANIEL BOYNTON JOSEPH BOYNTON."

Of Record in the same office: —

"Littleton December ye 19th 1754 To the Honourable "Sam[l] Danforth Esq[r] Judge of Probate for ye County of Mid- "dlesex may it Please your honour We the Subscribers being "the children of our Honoured Father and Grandfather major "Eleazer Lawrence Late of Littleton Deceased We hereby give "our consent that ye Will of our said Father and Grand Father "should be Proved and a Proved: and Disire your Honour "would alow of the same: and whereas there is some small es- "tate Left by our father not Disposed of by will we Disire "therefore that our aged mother may be allowed to take adminis- "tration and that the Improvement of the whole may be settled "upon Her During Her life.

"Peleg Lawrence.
"David Lawrence.
"Eleazer Lawrence.
"Samuel Lawrence.
"Benj[a]. Davis.
"Sarah Davis.
"Isaac Russell.
"Mary Russell."

Jabez Keep.
Experience Keep.
John Cumings.
Sarah Cumings.
Peter Parker.
Prudence Parker.

"The said Honorable Samuel Danforth January 13. 1755 "granted Letters of Administration unto Mary the widow."

The above shows conclusively that Experience Lawrence, who married Jabez Keep, was the daughter of Major Eleazer Lawrence of Littleton, Mass., and *not* the daughter of Jonathan Lawrence, son of John Lawrence and Mary Townley. Major Eleazer Lawrence was born in Groton, Mass., Feb. 28. 1674.

When Littleton was set off from Groton, he became a citizen of Littleton; and his name appears in the records of that town as one of the original landed proprietors. He was a son of Peleg Lawrence, who was born January 10, 1646–7, in Watertown, Mass., and who married, about 1667, Elizabeth Morse, and settled in Groton, Mass. The grandfather of Major Eleazer was John Lawrence of Watertown, Mass. [1st wife,

Elizabeth ——; 2d wife, Susannah, daughter of William Batchelder of Charlestown, Mass.]; removed to Groton, where he died, July 11, 1667.

Major Eleazer Lawrence married Mary, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Scripture of Groton; born Feb'y 7, 1680, by whom he had the following children: —

1. Eleazer, date of birth unknown.
2. Elizabeth, born Feb'y 28, 1699.
3. Peleg, born June 1, 1701.
4. Jonathan, born Oct. 4, 1703.
5. David, born Dec. 26, 1705.
6. Mary, date of birth unknown.
7. Sarah, date of birth unknown.
8. Samuel, born May 2, 1714.
9. Experience, born June 22, 1719.
10. Prudence, born April 7, 1722.

Of the above, Eleazer married, June 25, 1731, Lucy Tuttle, by whom he had (among other children) Simon, born January 11, 1739, from whom some of the Walker and Adams families descend.

Jonathan married Tryphena Powers (his first wife), by whom he had Tryphena, born Sep. 26, 1735, who married Sep. 3, 1754, her cousin Jonas, son of Isaac Lawrence of Canaan, Conn., and died in West Stockbridge, Mass., Jan. 31, 1795, whose descendants, living in Tioga County, New York, and Bradford County, Penn., have spent a large sum of money in the vain endeavor to prove themselves descended from a Jonathan Lawrence, son of a John Lawrence and Mary Townley. The Jonathan Lawrence who was their ancestor is clearly shown in the above.

Experience married at Westford, Mass., April 3, 1740, Jabez, son of Samuel and grandson of John Keep of Springfield, Mass. It will thus be seen that Experience Lawrence who married Jabez Keep in 1740, was aunt to Tryphena Lawrence, wife of Jonas, and daughter of Jonathan.

It is to be regretted that a few of the descendants of Experience Lawrence have insisted that the will of their ancestor Major Eleazer Lawrence is a forgery, and that the late Honor-

able Abbott Lawrence, while Minister of this Republic to the Court of Great Britain, caused certain gravestones to be taken from the graveyard at Groton, and transferred to England, by means of which he secured to himself, through parties in England, a large sum of money. This ridiculously false statement would not find a place here were it not for the fact that a few have influenced many to believe it to be the truth. Any one with the smallest degree of knowledge of genealogy and records will, without any hesitation, admit the validity and genuineness of the documents above quoted, if they will only take the trouble to examine them in the Probate Office of Cambridge, Mass., where they are of record, and constantly under the custody of officials.

The Rev. John Lawrence of Cambridge, Mass., has compiled a most excellent genealogy of the descendants of John Lawrence of Watertown.

In addition to those mentioned, there are several other branches of the Lawrence family who have had the same Lawrence-Townley tradition. The majority of these can be traced either to John, Thomas, or William Lawrence of Long Island, or to John Lawrence of Watertown, Mass. The Kentucky branch of the Lawrence family, however, trace their pedigree to Levin [Leven (?) the signature to his will is Levin] Lawrence who married Susannah, daughter of John and Honor Dorsey of Maryland. She was born Dec. 12, 1717. Levin Lawrence died between April and September, 1756, and was probably buried in the graveyard upon the north side of the old Lawrence homestead, about twelve miles south-west from Ellicott City, Howard County, Maryland. The house of Levin Lawrence, built in 1741, was still in good preservation when I visited it some five years since. One of the descendants of Levin Lawrence residing in Louisville, Kentucky, has the following coat-of-arms that has been handed down from generation to generation. "Argent, a cross raguly, gules, crest, two "laurel branches vert, forming a chaplet," which implies a descent from the Lawrence family of Lancashire, England.

On the maternal side the following is their traditional genealogy: —

"According to the traditions of the family three brothers, "Edward, Joshua and John Dorsey (or D'Arcy, as they were "more frequently called in the early State Records,) emigrated "from Ireland and settled in Maryland not long after its coloni- "zation. The first appearance of the name was in 1660, when "a tract of land called 'The Bush' containing four hundred "acres, lying near Chesapeake Bay and the mouth of the Severn "River was granted to Edward D'Arcy. In 1664 there was "granted to Edward, Joshua and John D'Arcy two thousand "acres of land lying on the Severn River, not far from where "the city of Annapolis now stands. A part of this Tract called "'Hockley in the Hole' remained in possession of John D'Arcy's "descendants from 1664 to 1829. John D'Arcy married a lady "whose Christian name was Pleasance but whose surname is "unknown. She survived her husband and married secondly "Thomas Wainwright. John D'Arcy died in 1714 after having "acquired a very large amount of real estate, most of it from "Grants of the Lords Proprietary of Maryland, many of his "Surveys being at the present time among the most valuable "lands in Anne Arundel County. He served for many years "as a Burgess in the General Assembly. He had three children, "Caleb, Edward and Deborah. Edward died in the lifetime of "his father, leaving Edward and John.

"Caleb married Eleanor Warfield and died at an advanced "age leaving a large property, as well as a large family.

"John, son of Edward married Honor —— whose daughter "Susannah married Levin Lawrence."

The Towneley Arms are quartered with those of D'Arcy, as is of record in the College of Arms, London. It is possible that the descendants of Levin Lawrence through the family of Dorsey, or D'Arcy, may be descended from the Townley family. The descendants of Levin Lawrence are among the best citizens of Kentucky; and, while engaged in tracing their pedigree, they assisted me in my search by every means in their power.

Another Lawrence family, not heretofore mentioned, descends from Thomas Laurenzen, who married, June 9, 1663, Marritje Jans (widow of Cornelis Van Langvelt), and have also had the tradition of a Lawrence-Townley alliance. But the members of this family now living are convinced that such tradition had no foundation in fact.

Thomas Laurenzen above was from Groningen in Holland; and, upon his admission to the Dutch Church in New York in 1662, he was styled "Thomas Laurenzen, Popinga," which has puzzled his descendants of the present generation. His son, baptized Laurens Thomassen, married, May 10, 1687, Catharine Lewis. She died Sep. 15, 1702, and her descendants are scattered throughout the States of New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Indiana, and Ohio. Thomas Laurenzen belonged to the family of Adolphus Laurens, who in 1650 was Registrar and Burgomeister of Groningen in Holland, and who used a seal similar to one now in the possession of the descendants of the said Thomas.

Hannah Lawrence of New Jersey, who, December 8, 1771, married Richard Chamberlin of the same State, and Elizabeth Lawrence, who, July 26, 1756, married David Olden, both of New Jersey, were descended from an ancestor totally distinct from any heretofore referred to, who came to this country about the middle of the seventeenth century. The same Lawrence-Townley alliance has been of tradition in this family, but without foundation.

There was a Joseph Lawrence with wife Mary living in Plainfield, and Killingly, Conn., in the early part of the eighteenth century. Said Mary survived her husband, and drew her will March 7, 1765, which was proved April 10, 1769. In it she mentions her daughter Mary and her grandchildren "Rachel "Lawrence, Abigail Cady, Experience Williams, Relief Law-"rence, Sarah Williams, Barcilla Gallup, Joseph Lawrence, "Thomas Lawrence and Josiah Lawrence to each of them a "bible." Her daughter Mary married for her first husband

Lemuel Dean, and after his decease she married John Williams, through which marriages the same Lawrence-Townley-marriage story has found its way into the circle of the Talcott, French, Warren, Williams, and Dean families of New England and the West. The said Joseph Lawrence of Plainfield, Conn., and Daniel Lawrence of Killingly, Conn. (whose descendants have had the same story), are probably descended from John Lawrence of Watertown, Mass.

The descendants of Jacob Lawrence and of Timothy Tallman of Fishkill, N.Y., have the same story. These families, as well as the Willett family, descend from one of the three immigrants, John, Thomas, or William Lawrence, of Long Island, and none of their ancestors married Mary Townley.

The Mackoy family of Kansas have had this same story with the variation that Mary, daughter of John Lawrence and Mary Townley, married their ancestor Charles Gresham, with whom she lived in King William County, Va.: and that a daughter born of this marriage became the wife of their great-grandfather, which is entirely a mistake.

Others of the Lawrence family, living in Massachusetts, Nova Scotia, and the Canadas, who trace their pedigree to Richard Lawrence of Richmond County, N.Y., have the same story concerning an ancestor of the said Richard, namely, that he married Mary Townley of Lancashire, which is also erroneous.

The descendants of Thomas, William, and Aquilla Chase have likewise been enthusiastic in the belief that it was one of their ancestors who married Mary, daughter of Sir Richard Townley of Lancashire. They have been encouraged in this belief by designing men, and they do not descend from any of the Townley family. I cannot show any proof that Thomas, William, and Aquilla Chase were related to the grand-parents of Richard Chase who married Margaret Townley, as I have not devoted my time and labor in that direction; but it is a

likely supposition that they were so related, and that thus has come down to the present generation the tradition of the marriage of Lady Townley with one of their ancestors, together with the tradition of an estate in England belonging to them in consequence of such marriage.

From the preceding, the reader will note that the tradition of the marriage of Mary Townley of Lancashire to a Lawrence and a Chase (which I have shown to be false), has found its way into a number of families in this country. It is probable that the first interest in a property in England, belonging to a Chase family of America, began in 1735, when the will of Francis Townley (see pedigree, branch D) was contested by his sister Honor Hodgson, and other members of his family. Jeremiah, the father of Margaret Townley, who married Richard Chase, was only brother to the said Francis; and although Jeremiah was dead at the time of this suit, the property of his brother Francis, a part of it at least, should have descended to his daughter and only child, instead of falling to an entire stranger.

It is also probable that in 1796, when the properties of Royle and Greenfield, for want of an heir male, reverted to Anne Townley, who married Robert Parker, the descendants then living of Col. Richard Townley of New Jersey, and of Margaret (Townley) Chase of Maryland, as well as of Joseph Lawrence of Long Island, became somewhat excited over the event, and that such excitement extended to the various branches of the Lawrence and Chase families of America.

A new interest may have been aroused when, on Tuesday, June 11, 1822, "The London Times" printed the following: —

"Parliamentary Intelligence. House of Commons Mon. June "10. Sir Robert Wilson said that a certain sum of money had "been left by a Col. Townley for the benefit of widows of cer- "tain officers. He wished to know why the testators Will had "not been yet carried into execution though the testator had "died some years ago. Sir Charles Long said that the £10,000 "had been left to the Secretary at War for the widows of

"Captains, lieutenants, & ensigns, but that it had been neces-
"sary to take legal opinion as to the mode of proceeding; and
"the result was that certain formalities must be gone through
"which required all the time that had since elapsed."

It has been frequently stated by parties in America that "The London Times" had years ago referred to a Townley estate dealt with by the House of Commons.

The above is the only reference, that I have been able to find, in support of such a statement, for which reason I have quoted it.

It has grown to be a nuisance to our foreign representatives in London, that they are constantly receiving letters about some estate that the writers fancy themselves entitled to.

If the writers of such letters would only *think* before doing so, they would discover that the United States of America does not allow its representatives abroad any time or latitude for attending to such business.

There are also many who think they are entitled to money in the Bank of England. The Bank of England has under its control millions of dollars in unclaimed dividends. Now, suppose a person has good grounds for believing that he is entitled to a portion of these dividends; then the proper course to be pursued is for him to trace his pedigree to the one from whom he claims descent. If such pedigree is approved by the "College of Arms" in London, then the matter can be brought before the Court of Directors of the Bank of England, and the money can be obtained.

I cannot close this volume without referring in brief to an opinion, that has taken hold of the minds of many, that some of my predecessors have been "bought off" from giving "the heirs" the true facts in the case. I undertook the work I have performed for the purpose of discovering if there were any grounds for the American traditions, and with a determination to carry it through to a finish, and present the actual facts to the public. Of course I labored hoping for a financial reward, which I have

not obtained: and I can assure my readers, that any insinuations that either my predecessors or myself have been "bought off," are as false as they are base.

In closing, I wish to thank each and every one who have in any way aided me in my efforts: and, if the facts which I have collected with much labor will prevent the public in future from paying any attention to the statements that I have shown to be false, I shall feel that my work has not been entirely in vain.

NOTE. — Those of the descendants of Robert and Mary Stevens (as well as their representatives) who have aided me in my work, will receive a copy of this book *free of charges*.

Those descendants of Col. Richard Townley, of New Jersey, and those descendants of Margaret Townley Chase, of Maryland, who have deeded to Dr. Alfred Shepherd and myself, will receive a copy of this book *free gratis*.

To all others, the price of this book, *with the pedigrees*, will be $1 per copy. For the book, *without the pedigrees*, the price will be $3 per copy. For the pedigrees alone, the price will be $2 each. Address the author, P.O. Box No. 1912, BOSTON, MASS.

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